New-York Tribune.

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The Weekly Tribune.

NEWS SUMMARY.

WAR NEWS.

Department of the Gulf.

It is rumored and believed that Gen. Hurlburt is preparing to establish the headquarters of the Department of the Gulf at Mobile. Gen. Granger's expedition against that place is fully prepared, and no doubt exists that the city will be in our hands very soon. Gen. Baldy Smith has established his commission to investigate the abuses of the department. Capt. Mobler, Quartermaster, and Provost-Marshal-General Robinson have already been arrested. The draft under Gen. Canby's order commenced on the 15th ult. The defenses of Galveston are being improved and enlarged.

Mobile advices of the 6th indicate no intention to evacuate the city. The garrison is being strengthened.

Naval.

A naval expedition of considerable magnitude is said to be fitting out at Cairo. The fleet will comprise 50 steamers.

Southern News.

Gen. Joe Johnston assumed command of the forces in the front and rear of Sherman on the 23d ult. Gen. Lee will remain at Richmond and direct movements from that point, as well as handle his own army for the defense of Richmond.

The proposition to arm 200,000 negroes, which passed the Rebel House on Feb. 20, was indefinitely postponed by the Senate on the 21st by one majority. *The Dispatch* thinks it will be reconsidered and passed.

The bill to diminish the number of exemptions and details in the Rebel military service has passed both Houses of the Rebel Congress. The bill is very strict in its details.

Miscellaneous.

Prisoners who escaped from the Salisbury (N. C.) Penitentiary nearly four weeks after the exodus of our correspondents, have recently arrived in the North, and report that the condition of affairs there, instead of improving, is rather growing worse.

Leading Peace Democrats say that the object of Singleton's new visit to Richmond is to impress upon the Rebel leaders the folly of protracting a hopeless contest, when, by submission to the authority of the United States, they might obtain peace on honorable terms. A dispatch to *The N. Y. Daily News* denies this, and says that his business is of a private nature.

Gen. Grant, the War Department concurring, has declined an offer of Gov. Fenton of ten regiments of the National Guard for 100 days' service in garrisoning the forts at Savannah, Charleston, Wilmington, and other Rebel ports.

For the week ending Feb. 26, 624 Rebel deserters have been received at Col. Ingraham's office in Washington from City Point.

Dr. Delaney, colored, was on Feb. 27 appointed surgeon, with the rank of Major, and ordered to report to Gen. Saxton for duty.

GENERAL NEWS.

News from Washington.

Our Washington correspondent says that many expected that the name of the Hon. Hugh McCulloch would have been sent in to the Senate on Feb. 27, but there was no ground for this belief, as it is the intention of Mr. Lincoln to send in the names of his new Cabinet immediately after his inauguration. The only change intended in the Cabinet is the substitution of McCulloch for Fessenden. Gov. Dennison and Attorney-General Speed were both informed, when appointed, that they were to remain through the term. Judge Usher will remain for the present, and Mr. Lincoln [illegible] his appreciation of the services of the chiefs of the Navy, War and State Departments, by tendering them positions in his Cabinet for four years more. This cast gives general satisfaction among those whom Mr. Lincoln has consulted upon the matter.

Roger A. Pryor arrived in Washington on the 23d ult., and, in company with Col. J. W. Forney, visited the President. He left Washington on the 26th ult. for the front, having been ordered by the President to report to Gen. Grant for exchange.

New-York.

A large meeting of well-known citizens was held at the Collector's office, at the Custom-House, on the 22d ult., to express the general joy at the recent glorious Union victories, and to take into consideration some proper method of uniting all our loyal residents in a grand ovation. A Committee was appointed for that purpose, and a resolution passed requesting the President to send a national vessel to Charleston harbor to convey thither Gen. Robert Anderson, that he might hoist on the flag-staff of Sumter the national banner he was, on the 13th of April, 1861, compelled to lower. The 4th of March has been agreed upon, by the Committee as a day of general joy and gratulation over the recent victories. The principal cities of the Union, through their Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade, have agreed to take part in the ovation on that day. In this city 150 invitations have been extended by the Committee of Arrangements to the prominent representatives of the trade societies, and it is expected that nearly all of them will coöperate in the celebration. The furloughed cavalry in the city will participate, the Fire Department will parade, and probably the Police Department. A balloon ascension will also be made. Brooklyn and Jersey City are astir, and will probably send large delegations to augment the ceremonies.

The execution of the sentence of death upon John Y. Beall, the Rebel spy, recently convicted by court-martial, duly took place on Governor's Island on the 24th ult., to which day he had been respited.

Political.

The full Union Congressional ticket of Connecticut is as follows: First District—Henry C. Deming of Hartford; Second District—Samuel L. Warner of Middletown; Third District—Augustus Brandegee of New-London; Fourth District—John H. Hubbard of Litchfield. The Democracy of the IId District met on Wednesday, and nominated Edward A. Russell of Middletown for Congress, throwing overboard their present member, James E. English, probably in consequence of his vote in favor of the great Constitutional Amendment. The Democratic candidate in the IVth District is William F. Taylor.

A number of Republicans, dissatisfied with Gilman Marston, the regular candidate of the party for Congress, met on the 21st ult. at Dover, N. H., and put in nomination Mr. Thomas E. Sawyer for that office. He has accepted the nomination.

Domestic Miscellany.

Drafting took place in five wards in Philadelphia, and in Morristown, New-Jersey, on Feb. 24. In Philadelphia a number of prominent citizens were drawn. During the past week the draft has been progressing in Newark, N. J., and in Brooklyn. Recruits are being rapidly obtained in this city, and nothing new has transpired regarding the draft here. The draft was commenced on Feb. 28 in the 22d Congressional District of this State, comprising the counties of Oswego and Madison.

The agents of the Russian American Telegraph Company have arrived at Westminster, Cal., and will soon explore the route through British Columbia.

The attempt to procure from Congress an extension of the Goodyear rubber monopoly has been abandoned, and it is now offered to throw the trade open to the public at once, if a very small per centage on the amount of sales to be used for the benefit of his widow and family, is granted by Congress. Two per cent is named as the maximum, and it is claimed that this satisfies all concerned therein. So says our Washington correspondent.

Gen. Mosquera, President of the Republic of Colombia, and its Minister to London have arrived in Washington, accompanied by Gen. Salgar, Colombian Minister to Washington, and Senor Bruzeral, the distinguished minister from Venezuela. General Mosquera has been introduced to the Secretary of State and the President, and lately left for City Point on a visit to Gen. Grant's armies.

Gov. Cannon of Delaware died on the 1st at Philadelphia, after a short illness.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Europe.

From private sources we learn that the new French Minister, M. Chateaurenard will soon leave Paris for Washington. He is said to fully sympathize with the North in the suppression of the Rebellion.

The French Chambers were opened by the Emperor on Feb. 15. His speech was entirely silent on the American question, and with regard to Mexico, expressed gratification at the consolidation of the Imperial Government and the development of the resources of the country.

The treaty of peace between Spain and Peru has been signed.

The Rebel steamer Shenandoah was at Ferral and said to be leaky. The news of the Peace Conference produced a great depression in commercial and financial circles, which ceased, when from later accounts it became apparent that the war would go on. *The Owl* of London claims to have received from special sources of information the terms of peace proposed by Lincoln through Blair to Davis. They are said to be as follows: Abolition of Slavery to be left to the Legislatures of the Southern States, restoration of the Union with the same rights of the Southern States as before, incorporation of the Confederate Army with the Union Army, with a view to foreign wars, the past to be forgotten.

Cardinal Wiseman died on Feb. 15.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—Second Session.

SENATE, Feb. 23.—The petitions of chaplains and naval officers for increase of pay was reported on adversely; also the bill extending the Homestead act to settlers on lands reserved for railroad grants, and a large number of other bills. The Railroad bill, entitled "an act to regulate commerce between the several States," was taken up, and after the debate the bill was postponed for the consideration of the bill recognizing the State Government of Louisiana by a vote of 20 to 17. A substitute for the Louisiana bill was rejected declaring that the States proclaimed in insurrection by the Proclamation of August 16, 1861, were not entitled to Congressional representation until the President has declared that armed hostilities within such States has ceased. Further consideration of the bill was postponed. Some sharp remarks were made on a proposition to take up the bill to provide a marble bust of the late Chief-Justice Taney for the Supreme Court-room. [illegible] limits the confiscation of real estate to the lifetime of the owners was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The joint resolution to extend the time for the construction of the Burlington and Missouri Railroad was passed. The Senate passed a resolution to publish a complete list of all officers who have been in the army since the beginning of the Rebellion. The bill to increase the efficiency of the Medical Corps of the Army was passed. The House bill for the better organization of the Subsistence Department was passed without the second section. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the bill in reference to confiscation reported from the Judiciary Committee on the preceding day. A tie vote occurred on a motion to lay the bill on the table, when the Speaker gave his casting vote in the negative, and the bill was then passed by yeas, 72; nays, 71. A bill was reported from the Committee on Commerce extending the first section of the act of June, 1813, to the mackerel fisheries as well as the cod fisheries. After a humorous debate the bill was passed. A bill reorganizing the Appraiser's office of the New-York Custom House, with amendments providing that there shall be one Chief Appraiser at an annual salary of $4,000, and six assistants at a salary of $3,000 per annum, was passed. Various unimportant bills in relation to commercial matters were then passed. The House then took up the Amendatory Enrollment bill, and passed the amendment, providing that no credits shall be given except the men are actually furnished on present and future calls and mustered into the service of the United States, by a vote of 83 to 34. A recess was then taken until 7 o'clock. The House occupied the evening session in the consideration of the Indian Appropriation bill, which was passed.

SENATE, Feb. 24.—The credentials of Richard Yates, Senator from Illinois for the next six years, in the place of Mr. Richardson, were read and referred. The bill to grant lands to Minnesota for a railway from the Mississippi River north passed. The bill to give $300 each to five Revolutionary survivors passed. A resolution was adopted calling on the President for information as to how much of Louisiana was controlled by our armies Dec. 1, 1864. The Fortification bill was discussed, and, on motion of Mr. Wilson, was amended by reducing the original appropriations one-half and retaining the provisions for expenditures for the forts of North Atlantic and Pacific coast, which the Finance Committee had struck out. The joint resolution recognizing the State Government of Louisiana was taken up. Mr. Henderson made a speech in favor of the resolution, and Mr. Sumner urged that loyal black as well as white men should have the privilege of voting. At 10 p. m. the Senate adjourned without a vote.

HOUSE.—The House considered several private bills and the new Enrollment bill. Mr. Stevens's motion to strike out the second section, requiring all recruits to be credited to their actual residences, was rejected. The section making a principal liable if his substitute desert, &c., was struck out by 105 to 34, and by 77 to 45; the House adopted a new section that the mustering in of a substitute shall exempt the principal for the whole time for which he was drafted. Without finishing the bill—adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 25.—The credentials of Waitman P. Willey, Senator elect from West Virginia for the next six years, were presented. A bill was passed to create the office of Naval Solicitor and Judge-Advocate-General. A motion to make the Bankrupt bill the special order for the evening was defeated by 17 to 24. The joint resolution reorganizing the State Government of Louisiana was then taken up, when Mr. Sumner offered as a substitute seven resolutions, declaring that it is the constitutional duty of Congress to reëstablish republican governments in the revolted States, and of Congress alone; that the term republican government is to be interpreted by the Declaration of Independence; that no loyal people should be disfranchised; that Congress ought to see that the rights of all citizens are protected; and that a State Government based on military law ought not to be recognized. Ordered to be printed. At the evening session, the Louisiana question again came up, and Mr. Sumner moved an amendment, providing that there shall be no denial of the elective franchise in Louisiana on account of color, which the Senate rejected by 12 to 18. After further debate and dilatory motions, adjourned.

HOUSE.—A resolution was passed to print 140,000 copies of the Agricultural Report. The Senate bill appropriating $1,000,000 to reimburse Missouri war expenses was referred to Committee on the Whole. A resolution of inquiry as to enlistment of Rebel prisoners into our army and payment of bounties to them was passed. A resolution of inquiry into the order of the War Department requiring passes from colored persons leaving the District of Columbia was passed. The Enrollment bill was discussed. An amendment to base enrollments on population was voted down by 51 to 91. An amendment exempting for three years principals furnishing substitutes for three years was adopted. An amendment was adopted that the principal shall be held liable for *non compos* or otherwise incompetent substitutes, if notified within thirty days. Adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 27.—A communication was received from the Secretary of War in response to a call for information as to the number of troops furnished by each State, declining, on instructions from the President, to furnish the information. Mr. LANE (Kansas), from the Committee on Agriculture, reported back a House bill for protecting emigrants, imposing a penalty for forcing or decoying emigrants into the army or navy, &c., with a recommendation that it pass. Mr. SHERMAN moved to take up the Tax bill. Several Senators desired to call up the Louisiana question. The question was then taken on postponing the Louisiana resolution and taking up the tax bill, which was decided in the affirmative; yeas 24, nays 11. Mr. SHERMAN made a report from the Committee of Conference on the Army and Navy Appropriation bill, which was agreed to. The tax bill was then taken up. The bill was then read at length, and Mr. Sherman made some lengthy remarks upon it. A motion to strike out the tax on books was lost, 5 to 27. The amendment of the Finance Committee to exempt magazines from the book tax of 5 per cent was lost, 12 to 20. The Finance Committee's amendment not to exempt bibles, testaments, and school-books, was adopted.

HOUSE.—An Amendatory Import bill was reported from the Committee on Ways and Means. It proposes an additional duty on liquors, silk, cotton, oils for illumination, tobacco, and iron. The tonnage duty in the tariff act of July 4, 1862, to be increased from 10 to 30 cents. The House concurred in the Senate amendments to the Fortification bill. The next amendment of the Senate was the addition of the deficiency appropriation bill, the passage of which has been long delayed owing to the disagreement by Senate to the appropriation of $38,000 for extra compensation to the clerks and other employés of the House. The Committee on Ways and Means recommended a non concurrence in this amendment. The question was taken on the amendment adding the deficiency bill, minus the extra compensation for the House clerks and employés, and decided in the negative by a vote of 54 yeas against 75 nays. A report was made on the disagreeing amendments to the Navy Appropriation bill, and it was passed. The House passed the Amendatory Enrollment bill after refusing to strike out the section disfranchising deserters who do not return in sixty days.

The bill is as follows: Hereafter all persons mustered into the military or naval service, whether as volunteers, [illegible] shall be credited to the State, and to the Precinct, or other enrollment sub-district, where such persons belong by actual residence, if such persons have an actual residence within the United States, and where such persons were or shall be enrolled, if liable to enrollment; and it is made the duty of the Provost-Marshal-General to make such rules and give such instructions to the several Provost-Marshals, Boards of Enrollment and Mustering Officers, as shall be necessary for the faithful enforcement of the provisions of this section, to the end that fair and just credits shall be given to every section of the country; provided that no credits shall be given except for such men as have actually been mustered in.

The third section provides that in computing quotas hereafter credit shall be given to the several States, districts and sub-districts, for all men furnished from them respectively, and not heretofore credited during the present rebellion for any period of service of not less than three months, calculating the number of days for which such service was furnished, and reducing the same to years; provided that such credits shall not be applied to the call for additional troops made by the President on the 21st day of December, 1864.

SEC. 4. No person of foreign birth, who has resided in the United States for three years preceding his arrival at the age of 21 years, shall be exempt from enrollment and draft on account of being an alien.

The remaining sections provide that the mustering in of a substitute shall be conclusive in favor of the principal, and exempt him from military service for the term for which he was drafted. Assistant-Provost-Marshal-Generals are to be appointed by the President, and chargeable with the duties intermediate between the Provost-Marshal-General and the District Provost-Marshals. Any person who has been or may be drafted for one year, but who has furnished an acceptable substitute for three years, shall be exempt for this period of time. It shall not be lawful for any person to engage in the business of procuring recruits or substitutes for money or profit without having first obtained from the Secretary of War authority in writing. The party is to file proof of his loyalty and good character, and give bond to the amount of $50,000 that he will faithfully observe and obey the laws and regulations in force governing the obtaining of recruits or substitutes. Any recruiting agent who causes to be enlisted any insane person or convict, or person under indictment for felony, is to be punished by fine and imprisonment; and any officer knowingly mustering any deserter or insane person or persons in a condition of intoxication, or any minor without the consent of his parent or guardians, shall, on conviction, be dishonorably dismissed the service. Principals who put in insufficient substitutes are to be notified of the fact, in order that their places may be properly supplied, provided that notice be given to such principals within 30 days. In addition to the other lawful penalties of the crime of desertion from military or naval service, all persons who have deserted who shall not return or report themselves to a Provost-Marshal within sixty days, shall be deemed and taken to have voluntarily relinquished and forfeited their rights of citizenship and their right to become citizens; and all persons who shall hereafter desert on being duly enrolled, or shall depart from the jurisdiction and go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to avoid the draft duly ordered, shall be liable to the penalties of this section, and the President is authorized to issue his proclamation that he will pardon those who return and serve out their original term. This act is to take effect from and after its passage, and nothing therein is to operate to depart from, or interfere with, or postpone the pending draft or the quotas assigned therefor. The bill repeals the third section of the present enrollment law, which authorizes Governors of States to send recruiting agents into the Rebel States.

In the evening session the House passed the Senate bill giving $1,500 to Mrs. Lucy A. Wright of Richmond for assisting Col. Streight in his escape. The bill aiding the California and Oregon Railroad was passed. The House, in Committee of the Whole, took up the $600,000,000 loan bill. Mr. STEVENS offered his substitute to borrow the same amount at a rate of interest not exceeding 8 per centum per annum. Mr. HOOPER reported an amendment from the Committee of Ways and Means, providing that the act of June, 1864, shall be construed so as to authorize the issue of any description of bonds authorized by this act, and that any Treasury notes or other obligations under any act may be converted into any description of bonds. This was agreed to. Mr. WILSON offered a substitute for the first section of the bill to borrow $600,000,000 at a rate of interest not exceeding 7-30 per centum. He explained his views on the subject, and wished to confine the loan under this act to bonds. On motion of Mr. MORRILL, the first section was amended so that for this $600,000,000 the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue bonds and Treasury notes instead of bonds and other obligations. Adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 28.—The resolution to purchase Powell's painting for $25,000 was passed by 23 to 17. A bill was reported to incorporate an asylum for totally disabled officers and men of the Volunteer service, the corporators being the leading general officers in service and a number of prominent editors and other civilians. The amended tax bill was then discussed until the recess, and resumed at the evening session, when the Senate, by the casting vote of the presiding officer, agreed to the Finance Committee's proposition to tax savings banks the same as banks of issue.

HOUSE.—The House went into Committee of the Whole on the $600,000,000 Loan bill. After debate the bill was passed with amendments not materially changing its provisions, and leaving the amount of the loan and the rates of interest unaffected. The vote on the passage of the bill was as follows: Yeas, 78; nays, 35. Bills were passed to appoint a Solicitor of the Navy Department; to regulate the appointment of Admirals; increasing the pay of midshipmen to $800 a year; regulating the transfer of men from the army to the navy; to punish desertion; and in relation to prize money. A debate then ensued on a bill to pay $190,000 as prize-money to Capt. Winslow and the crew of the Kearsarge for sinking the Alabama. The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, with an amendment, offered by Mr. DAVIS (Md.), to pay Lieut. Cushing and those under him for the destruction of the Albemarle. He said that this act was infinitely more brilliant than the destruction of the Alabama.

SENATE, March 1.—The Army Register bill was passed. The Military Committee reported adversely on the House bill to muster out of the service soldiers who enlisted for the unexpired terms of their regiments. A bill in relation to the financial matters of the Pacific Railroad was passed. The Six Hundred Million Loan bill was passed as it came from the House. The Legislative Appropriation bill then came up, the Committee of Conference again failing to agree on the additional compensation to the House employés. An amendment that the Senate agree to the appropriation of $43,000 for the purpose of paying such contingent expenses as they be directed by the House was passed, 21 to 10. The Indian Appropriation bill was then passed, and an amendment adopted giving civilized Indians speaking English the benefits of the Homestead law. Recess.

HOUSE.—The House went into Committee on the Amendatory Import bill, and rejected amendments affecting iron bars, lead, tea, and coffee. The bill, as amended, was then passed. A bill to repeal the act authorizing the appointment of Treasury agents to buy the products of insurrectionary States was passed. The Civil Appropriation bill was then taken up and discussed until recess.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE, Feb. 23.—No business of importance was transacted.

ASSEMBLY.—Bills were introduced to provide for the payment of the interest on bonds issued pursuant to the ordinance of the New-York Supervisors, passed June 14, 1864; to prevent fraud in the sale of produce and other commodities. The SPEAKER presented the annual report of the trustees of the New-York Institute for the Blind.

SENATE, Feb. 24.—Bills were noticed for a Metropolitan Public Conveyance Company; relative to the foreclosure of Mortgages by advertisement. Bills were advanced to a third reading [illegible] legalizing legal holidays; providing for raising money to pay the interest on the New-York bounty bonds—passed; for the relief of the holders of unsecured bonds of the New-York and Erie Railroad Company.

ASSEMBLY.—Bills were introduced for the better regulation of the sale of beer and malt liquors. The SPEAKER presented a dispatch from Secretary Stanton announcing the fall of Wilmington. [Applause.] Reports were offered to incorporate the Union Hotel Company of Buffalo; to provide for the payment of interest on the bonds authorized by the Supervisors of New-York—read a third time and passed; to authorize the City of Poughkeepsie to borrow money. The State Bounty Tax bill was then read a third time and passed. A resolution directing the Committee on Railroads to investigate complaints against the Central Railroad was passed by a vote of 42 to 46. Resolutions were offered tendering thanks to Gen. Sherman and his army for the capture of Charleston and Wilmington; thanking our brave soldiers in the field for their endurance and heroism in putting down the Rebellion. Adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 25.—The resolution calling for information as to the amounts paid over by New-York city District-Attorneys on bail bonds, etc., since 1845 was adopted. The paid Fire Department bill was made the special order for March 2. The Speaker presented the annual report of the Commissioners of Emigration. Bills were passed for the relief of the Sheepshead Bay and Sea Shore Railroad; increasing the rates of pilotage in the port of New-York; amending the Act designating legal holidays; for the relief of holders of unsecured bonds of the New-York and Erie Railroad Company; authorizing the Monroe County Supervisors to borrow money to make good a deficiency in the accounts of Jason Baker; to amend the act concerning Hellgate pilots.

ASSEMBLY.—Bills were passed enabling the the State Banks to change to National Banks; to confer legal powers on the Arbitration Committee of the New-York Chamber of Commerce; to increase the fees of Notaries Public. Bills were introduced to make the New-York County Clerk and Register salaried officers.

SENATE, Feb. 27.—Bills were reported favorably prohibiting the Hudson River Railroad Company from charging on freight more than 25 per cent in addition to what said company charged in November, 1862, and limiting the fare to two cents per mile for both through and way passengers; declaring the conversion of advances by the Canal Commissioners and the refusal to pay over the same, embezzlement. Bills were passed supplementary to the bounty bills. It provides for a tax of two per cent on the property of the State, to be levied in the fiscal years of 1865 and 1866; that the controller may issue bonds in anticipation of the tax; that if the people ratify the debt under the former act, the tax may be permitted, and the bonds issued by the controller may be exchanged for the stocks then to be issued; that all moneyed institutions may invest their funds in such bonds, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the present law; extending the time for the completion of the Adirondack Railroad. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—The Annual Appropriation bill was passed. The Soldiers voting bill was introduced.

SENATE, Feb. 28.—Bills were reported favorably on the bills removing the fare restriction on the Central Railroad; adversely on the bill relative to legal proceedings against the Mayor and Commonalty of New-York—agreed to; against authorizing notaries public residing in other counties to transact official business in New-York—agreed to. Bills were introduced incorporating the New-York College of Dentistry; providing for the final closing of the incorporated banks of the United States. The bill authorizing plank-road and turnpike road companies throughout the State to add 33 per cent to their tolls was ordered to third reading. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—The following bills were ordered to a third reading: To renew the appropriation to the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company; to enable husband and wife, or either of them, to become witnesses against each other.

THE FALL OF CHARLESTON.

FULL ACCOUNT BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 20, 21, 22, 1865.

Here beginneth the reopening of THE TRIBUNE'S special correspondence from Charleston, which has been suspended since the early period of the great Rebellion against the progress of the Democratic idea in America, and its grandest and purest incorporation in the world—the Constitution and Government of the United States. How marvelous, how vast, how sublime have been the events that have marked our history since your last representative trode the streets of this insurgent city! Then it was ruled with a rod of iron by a barbarous and aristocratic class, inflated and infatuated by two centuries of power; proud of their position; glorying in their shame; confident of their ability to arrest and turn back the advancing tide of Northern civilization; detesting its apostles (as the Pharisees once hated the disciples of the Christ), whom they had long and everywhere persecuted to the death; then they were so bold and strong and fierce that the bravest hearts among us, those who loved the Union above all earthly goods, were doubtful at times of the final triumph of the nation and the right. It was the high carnival of despotism in America, the Belshazzar's Feast of the Slaveholder. The writing on the wall was visible to but one eye in all the delirious city—one voice only read the impending doom aright. All heard the voice, but none saw the man. He wore THE TRIBUNE's cloak of darkness. Who was he, that invisible Daniel, whom the slaveholders of Charleston sought so eagerly? Let us learn the well-kept secret now, and give honor to whom honor is due!

To-day, how changed the scene! The Rebellion, planted here, which grew as rapidly as Jonah's gourd, and threatened to blight all the land with its Upas shadow, is withering up now as quickly as did the prophet's! City after city, State after State, is being dragged into the sunlight of freedom; and already we see, no longer afar off, but near at hand, the dawning of the day of liberty. For, our "Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen," and its setting is the rise of the sun of liberty.

SUNDAY—NEWS AT HILTON HEAD.

The General's boat, on which we went from the Fulton, instead of returning to Charleston, as we had hoped and expected, steamed on toward Hilton Head.

The news created universal joy there. Every vessel in the harbor, every official building on the land, flung out our banner to the breeze in honor of the occupation of the Rebel stronghold.

At noon both the navy and the army fired national salutes. In the colored churches the victory was mentioned, with a touching and appropriate solemnity.

At 10 o'clock the General's boat was again ready, and put to sea. It carried a large number of officers and civilians, and a goodly delegation of representatives of the press.

Gen. Webster and staff, and Col. Woodford of New-York (the Provost-Marshal-General), and Col. Markland, the United States Mail Agent, were among the passengers of the U. S. Grant.

COL. WOODFORD'S RETURN.

Col. Woodford, it may be remembered, was at Charleston [illegible] had once run for the Legislature of New-York on the Republican or Fremont ticket. This fact became known in Charleston, and a committee of citizens waited on him at his hotel. They notified him that he was regarded as an Abolitionist, and suspected of being the correspondent of THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE. He denied the second count of Judge Lynch's indictment, but left the city at the earliest opportunity. The correspondence was still kept up! He goes back now to rule the city which so recently expelled him.

IN THE BAY.

We lay off the harbor for several hours before daybreak, when the trip to the city was resumed. A brisk breeze was blowing from the land, but its chilliness kept none of the passengers inside. Every eye was eagerly gazing at the broad stream, the ruins, the forts, the distant city, the ships-of-war, the blockade-runners, and the monitors, which formed the salient features of the scenery before us. To the left lay Morris Island, with Fort Wagner and the Cumming's Point batteries; further off, on the shore, large mounds of sand—the Rebel "battery B;" a little further up, with our flag flying over it, Fort Gregg; to the right, on the low sandy shore, with one or two little groves of palmettoes near by, the earthworks of Fort Moultrie; between them, apparently a mass of ruins in the middle of the stream, but really one of the most formidable fortifications in the world, was the renowned Fort Sumter; and behind it lay Castle Pinckney, with its cannon pointed at us, and the captured city, where Rebellion was begotten and born, and began its career of carnage and desolation.

It is not merely what we see, but the memories awakened, that make landscapes full of charm or of interest. Under other circumstances, and at any other time, this landscape would have drawn but few of the passengers from their berths; but now a sandy plain was gazed on with profound interest as the scene of the heroic charge of the Massachusetts 54th. With the sight of the six monitors were revived recollections of that memorable fight in Hampton Roads, and of many a gallant action since; with that mass of ruined brick-work was inseparably interwoven the story of how the Rebels dared to fire on our flag in the wantonness of their pride, and thereby provoked the uprising of the North and the development of the most imposing and resistless of all modern military powers. Every brain was populous with memories of historic events, and every eye was strained to its utmost to notice with the minutest fidelity every feature of the scenery.

"YANKEE DOODLE COME TO TOWN."

As we neared the wharves the post brass band, which had come with us from Hilton Head, struck up the spirit-stirring air of Yankee Doodle. That tune should be heard under such circumstances to be duly appreciated.

FIRST APPEARANCES.

The wharves looked as if they had been deserted for half a century—broken down, dilapidated, grass and moss peeping up between the pavements, where once the busy feet of commerce trode incessantly. The warehouses near the river; the streets as we enter them; the houses and the stores and the public buildings—we look at them and hold our breaths in utter amazement. Every step we take increases our astonishment. No pen, no pencil, no tongue can do justice to the scene. No imagination can conceive of the utter wreck, the universal ruin, the stupendous desolation. Ruin—ruin—ruin—above and below; on the right hand and the left; ruin, ruin, ruin, everywhere and always—staring at us from every paneless window; looking out at us from every shell-torn wall; glaring at us from every battered door and pillar and verandah; crouching beneath our feet on every sidewalk. Not Pompeii nor Herculaneum, nor Thebes nor the Nile have ruins so complete, so saddening, so plaintively eloquent, for they speak to us of an age, got ours, and long ago dead, with whose people and life and ideas we have no sympathy whatever. But here, on these shattered wrecks of houses—built in our own style, many of them doing credit to the architecture of our epoch—we read names familiar to us all; telling us of trades and professions and commercial institutions which every modern city reckons up by the hundred; yet, dead, dead, dead; as silent as the grave of the Pharoahs, as deserted as the bazaars of the merchant princes of Old Tyre. Whoever among us wished to know how his spirit would feel if he were to revisit by the pale glimpses of the moon the ruins of his native city after the present civilization shall have passed away, learned it to his complete satisfaction on the morning of last Monday here. It was early—few stragglers were abroad; just enough to make the desolation the more desolate by contrast; and the stillness, not of the Sabbath, but of the desert, hung heavily over all. Hardly a building in all this part of the city—and this the business part—has escaped the terrible crashing and smashing of the shells. And right in the center of it, are at least, (I should judge) ten acres of ruins, the monuments of the great fire which occurred three years ago. This is an open space—only blackened walls and solitary chimneys remain in it. And, all around this area of desolation, are the ruined houses that still stand—"Gillmore's Town," as the negroes call it; a triumph of military skill—of the art destructive of all arts; a proof to the Christian that God's judgments are sure, and that the cries of the poor are heard at The Great Throne and avenged by the all-Righteous Judge. They acted, the men who lived in these mansions and trafficed in these stores and marts, as if God were dead; as if their own will was the only standard of right—they mocked at any "higher law"; they sold the poor men in their avarice and killed the good men in their hate; when, lo! the people whom they despised rose up against them and subdued them, and the race whom they enslaved trode their streets under the banners and as the comrades of their conquerors!

But, however great our astonishment, and however awe-stricken our thoughts were, we remembered that our first duty was to learn for our Northern readers not what ruin had been wrought here, but how the city was captured.

So we hurried to the newspaper offices up-town—for their old places of business had been rendered uninhabitable by the shells which sought them out—and found them, too.

A NEGRO IMAGE-BREAKER.

We found *The Mercury* office deserted—a negro family already quartered in the room which had been the editorial sanctum! In the front room, there were four busts of eminent Americans—one of them Calhoun. I have no respect whatever for mere intellect, unless it is employed for the benefit of the race; and when it is perverted and made an engine for the oppression of the poor, I have a cordial detestation of it. These human infernal machines, these torpedoes in trowsers, should be treated just as their mechanical images are treated—destroyed or put out of harm's way. Now, Calhoun did more than any one man to make Slavery respectable—he used all his great powers to crush the negro. So I hate him. I said to the negress who showed us into the room:

"That man was your great enemy—he did all he could to keep you slaves—you ought to break his bust."

She said nothing, and as I was occupied in examining manuscripts I did not notice that she left the room. After a while, having finished my search, I thought that the bust of Calhoun would be a good trophy for THE TRIBUNE Office, and made up my mind to "spoil the Egyptians" to that extent.

The negro woman was there, and I saw that the bust had disappeared. I asked her where it was.

She had "gone done" and broke it!

So perish all Queen Liberty's enemies!

The Courier office was in possession of the Provost-Marshal. After various researches, we obtained the current news of

THE EVACUATION.

The recent movements, planned by Gen. Gillmore along the line of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad (under Brig.-Gen. Hatch), and up Bull's Bay (a naval and military expedition under Gen. Potter), alarmed the Rebel military authorities and hastened the evacuation of the city. It was known from Rebel sources that Hardee designed to evacuate the city, but it was thought that it would take place on Wednesday, Feb. 22, or later in the week. But Potter's demonstration [illegible] they believed that he had a very [illegible] they began to leave the city on Friday. Hardee himself left Charleston on Friday night, and the last of the Rebels took their leave early on Saturday.

DESTRUCTION OF COTTON AND PUBLIC STORES.

Before leaving, details of soldiery were sent to fire every building without exception in which cotton was stored. It is estimated that 2,000 bales were consumed. The western portion of Charleston suffered severely by these fires. The cotton thus destroyed belonged chiefly to the Rebel Government; but hundreds of bales, the property of citizens' shared the same fate. Thirty thousand bushels of rice, Government property, and a large warehouse filled with commissary stores, were also destroyed. The fire-engines were brought out, but were powerless to extinguish the flames. They succeeded only in preventing it from spreading.

HORRIBLE CALAMITY.

When the starving poor people heard that the public stores were being burned, they ran in great crowds to try to save some of the rice. This was about 8 o'clock in the morning. Some boys discovered where a large supply of gunpowder was stored, and amused themselves with tossing handfuls of it into the large piles of burning cotton. Suddenly the fire communicated to the magazine, and a fearful explosion took place. The scene is described as being extremely horrible. It is estimated by the citizens that upward of 150 men, women and children perished in the flames, and that nearly 200 were injured, burned and wounded. Possibly this may be an exaggerated estimate; but there are no public officers yet from whom the truth can be ascertained, and rumor is wholly untrustworthy. This frightful calamity occurred at the North-Eastern Railroad depot, which was totally destroyed. The miserable victims were seen tumbling about in agony, literally roasting alive; their wild shrieks were appalling—and all help was impossible.

DESTRUCTION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

The flames rapidly communicated to the adjacent buildings and four large blocks were almost entirely burned down. This fire ravaged Chapel, Calhoun, East Bay and Laurens-sts., in the vicinity of the N. G. Railroad depot. Two large brick buildings on the corner of East Bay and Laurens-sts. and Minority-sts. were also destroyed. An hour later fire buildings near the Court-House, on Meeting-st., were added to the list of total losses by the fire. The new bridge from the city to James Island was similarly destroyed.

DESTRUCTION OF THE GUNBOATS.

While these scenes of horror were going on, the Rebel iron-clads were burning. These vessels were named the Palmetto State, the Chicora and the Charleston. The Palmetto State exploded with a fearful noise about 9 o'clock, and the Chicora followed suit shortly afterward. The Charleston held out till 11 o'clock, and then burst asunder. One of these iron-clads had 20 tuns of gunpowder on board, and the effect of its ignition was terrific. Red hot iron plates were thrown as far as the wharf, and soon set them on fire. But the wharves were saved from destruction by the Fire Department. The gas works were in danger, but were successfully protected. We still have gas, therefore, such as it is—but as it is made wholly of Southern pine, it is far from being a brilliant light. *The Charleston Courier* of Monday (No. 20,001), mentions a curious phenomenon connected with or caused by these explosions. "The explosions," it says, "were terrific. Tremendous clouds of smoke went up, forming beautiful wreaths. A full Palmetto tree, with its leaves or stems, was noticed by many observers. As the last wreath of smoke disappeared, the full form of the palm smoke in the center was remarked by many as it gradually faded away."

The Courier made no comments on this significant phenomenon; but when its fugitive editors return (if they ever do come back), they will find that the Palmetto and Rattlesnake "went up" last Saturday, never to descend. They ended as the Confederacy will end—in smoke.

OUR FORCES LAND.

Lieut.-Col. A. G. Bennett of the Twenty-first United States Colored Troops, Major John A. Hennessy and Lieut. Burr of the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Vols., and

See Fourth Page.

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The Weekly Tribune.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, March 1, 1865.

CAN THE REBELS OVERWHELM SHERMAN?

The fate of the Rebellion now obviously hangs by a thread, which a decisive Union victory would snap. Practically, its territory is restricted to North Carolina and Virginia; since South Carolina has been abandoned without a contest, while Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi have been left far in the rear of Sherman's fearless, triumphant advance. According to all recognized probabilities, that leader must be speedily fought and beaten, or the Confederacy is no more. Hence, the confident and general assumption that the abandonment of Columbia, Charleston, Fort Anderson, &c., are details of a plan, which has for its object the concentration of nearly all the remaining Rebel troops near the southern border of North Carolina, there, under the command of their Generalissimo, to fall upon Sherman and crush him before he can be reënforced by Grant.

Supposing this to be the latest Rebel programme, what are the chances of its successful execution?

In answering this question, we must consider:

I. Sherman's army consists mainly of the bronzed veterans who have carried the flag of a restored Union in triumph from the Ohio to the Atlantic, victorious on many hard-fought fields, and worsted on but one—that of the Chickamauga, where they were outnumbered in the proportion of at least three to two. Since they started from Chattanooga last Spring, they have been checked only in assaults on impregnable positions, in fortified mountain passes, and have hardly encountered an enemy strong enough to compel them to form a line of battle in the last six months. Having unbounded faith in their leader and themselves, they constitute this day the best fighting force of their numbers ever embodied on this continent.

II. The strength of that army is variously computed at 55,000 to 103,000 men: we call it 75,000. All this is fighting muscle. It traverses a country essentially friendly—for the remaining population of South Carolina is essentially negro, and is unanimously imbued with enthusiastic, uncalculating devotion to the Union cause. It wastes no strength in garrisoning posts or keeping open lines of communication, but moves right on, with emphatic celerity and confidence. It has already emerged from the morasses of the Savannah and the Combahee, and has attained the middle ground between the Alleghenies and the lowland marshes, where the rivers are mainly fordable, the climate at this season temperate, and the roads generally firm.

III. In cavalry, Gen. Sherman is especially strong, so as completely to mask the movements of his infantry and keep the enemy perplexed and dubious with regard to his intentions. Thus he took Milledgeville without a blow while the Rebels were looking for him both at Macon and Augusta, and enveloped Savannah while they were insisting that he was intent on "escaping" by Brunswick, Darien or Hilton Head. They were watching for him again both at Augusta and Charleston when he disconcerted them by turning up at Columbia. Now they say he is moving on Charlotte and Raleigh, when it is quite possible that he is making for Florence and Wilmington. They have so often had him "just where they wanted him," that he is very likely to accommodate them just so once or twice more. And, so long as his superiority in cavalry shall be maintained, it will bother them to crowd or starve him into a fight which he would rather decline.

IV. South Carolina is Union by a large majority, because that majority is enslaved by the minority; but North Carolina has a Union majority of Whites in addition to all her negroes. Of her able-bodied citizens who are to-day out of the Rebel ranks, at least two-thirds are Union, especially in her Western Counties. Such inveterate Whig strongholds as Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, Moore, Stanley, Cabarrus, Randolph, Iredell, &c., lie in the way of his advance to Raleigh, and their people are eager to welcome him as their deliverer from the ferocious despotism which has too long drank their life-blood. There is not a Rebel in Richmond who does not know that North Carolina will declare overwhelmingly for the Union whenever our flag shall be triumphantly unfurled at Raleigh.

All the chances and possibilities of the campaign have of course been weighed by our military chiefs, who are quite as well aware as their adversaries that the Confederacy cannot afford to let Sherman penetrate North Carolina. Gen. Grant knows just how strong Sherman is, and cannot be far out in his estimate of the forces that can be gathered to oppose him. He is quite aware that the Rebels will stop him if they can, and that Lee will send from Richmond to Beauregard every regiment he can spare, probably heading them himself. But the transfer of 50,000 men from the James to the Pedee, even with the help of such Railroads as remain to the Confederacy, is no light undertaking; it can hardly be effected in a fortnight; and meantime Grant's road by water to Sherman is scarcely longer in time than is Lee's overland.

On the whole, though the ensuing month is destined to be most eventful, and the prospect is not free from solicitude, we feel the fullest confidence in Sherman's genius, and cherish high hopes of his unbroken, decisive success.

WILMINGTON.

Gen. Schofield occupied Wilmington on the 22d, the Rebels having become convinced of the error they committed in keeping it so long, and betaking themselves to "fresh woods and pastures new." There was more or less skirmishing as our troops advanced, but no serious resistance since the evacuation of Fort Anderson. As the monitor has been made to figure somewhat largely as the efficient cause of the retreat from Anderson, it is worth while to notice that the evacuation was a fact caused by the movement of Gen. Cox, which turned the fort and threatened to cut off its communication with Wilmington.

The few troops left in the town have gone to join the gathering forces of Beauregard in front of Gen. Sherman. But it would be a mistake to suppose any considerable number is thus released. Since the capture of Fort Fisher by Gen. Terry, the surrender of Wilmington has been a foreseen necessity to the Rebels, and it will be found that Gen. Schofield garners only the empty husks of what was once a fruitful town. The military stores and the cotton have been removed or burned, and the shipping destroyed. We do not believe the Rebels held on to the town a day longer than was necessary to enable them to complete their arrangements for giving it up.

But that does not impair the military significance of the surrender. Savannah, Charleston, Wilmington have fallen in quick succession, and the policy of abandoning the coast line which has long been debated among the Rebels as a question of expediency is now accepted as a necessity. Theirs is not commonly an indecisive purpose nor do they shrink from going to the end of a business upon which they once enter; hence we infer that Richmond is soon to follow the example of Wilmington, and that Lee, whether or not he fights Sherman in the heart of North Carolina, has made up his mind to defend in future nothing but the interior portion of that territory which the Rebellion claims as its own. It is already intimated that Petersburg is to be given up at once. The policy of concentration did not involve the surrender of the coast line, but the policy of fighting to the bitter end, and of maintaining an army in the field after the capital and the political hopes of the Confederacy are gone, does.

Meantime, the Richmond papers which have hitherto furnished us with accounts of Gen. Sherman's advance are compulsorily silent, and we know nothing of his position later than a reported movement on Winnsborough on the 18th or 19th.

THE NATION'S FESTIVAL.

On Saturday, March 4, Abraham Lincoln will renew his solemn oath of fidelity to the Country and her Constitution on his second inauguration as President of the United States, and Andrew Johnson will assume the duties of Vice-President. Some of our most eminent citizens have in public meeting decided that the occasion shall be commemorated as a National Festival, and have invited the coöperation of loyal and patriotic men and women throughout the Union. The suggestion is wise and timely, and we trust it will be widely and heartily responded to. As the inauguration ceremonies will commence at noon, it is proper that the festive and patriotic observances should everywhere proceed from that hour.

This is not intended as an ovation to the President, nor should participation in it be confined to those who supported his reëlection. It is a renewal of the solemn yet fervid protestations of fidelity to their country, her rights and liberties, which were so generally evoked by the news of the bombardment and fall of Fort Sumter in April, 1861. The great body of the people of the Free States then pledged themselves to their country and to each other to stand and strive together until the unprovoked insult and outrage to which they had just been subjected should be fully and signally atoned for. How well they have kept that pledge, let the National flag now flying proudly from the steeples, the bastions, of Norfolk, Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Little Rock, Vicksburg, Natchez, Baton Rouge, Savannah, New-Orleans, Newbern, Wilmington, Charleston, and Fort Sumter itself, bear witness. At this hour, a very large majority of the people and of the inhabited area claimed as belonging to the Confederacy are repossessed by the Union. Our armies securely hold the capitals of Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana, South Carolina—six of the thirteen States represented in the Rebel Congress—have occupied those of Mississippi and Georgia, and now threaten those of North Carolina and Virginia, with the seaport of Alabama—the only city of commercial importance remaining to the Confederacy. There are not today so many Whites under Confederate rule as inhabit the single State of New-York; while the Blacks that remain in Secessia are unanimous and enthusiastic in their devotion to the National cause. Practically, the Confederacy consists of the army of Gen. Lee, with the motley host which Beauregard is mustering wherewith to stop Sherman's progress in the Carolinas, and which Joe Johnston has just been designated to command. Outside of those armies, if we may trust the objurgations and remonstrances of the Rebel organs, there are nought but despondency, murmuring, and anxiety for peace on any terms.

Of course, we do not rejoice as over assured and accomplished triumph. We know that there remain armies to vanquish and the efforts of desperation to baffle. It is possible that the Rebel hosts now mustering for their last onset may deal us an unexpected and telling blow. Lee is to march northward into the Free States, says one rumor; he is going West, to reclaim Kentucky and feed on her undevastated herds and pastures, says another; he will elude Grant and fall like a thunderbolt on Sherman, says a third. It is possible that he may yet be able to concentrate one hundred thousand men, two-thirds of them veterans; and such a force, well handled, is never to be despised. But the power of the revolted South to raise white armies is exhausted and her Congress has just definitively refused—we judge, wisely refused—to order a levy of negroes. Those who voted thus will be berated by the desperadoes who have no hope, no future, outside of the Rebellion; but they are right. The Confederates are not prepared to abolish Slavery utterly and forever, recognizing their late chattels as men and fellow citizens; and, short of this, it were absurd to put arms in the hands of Blacks, who would assuredly bring them over to our side at the very first opportunity. A Slaveholders' Rebellion which has no remaining resource but in muskets wielded by negroes, may better be getting itself shoveled under so soon as possible.

But not as over enemies vanquished, but as over a great work nearly achieved, should our citizens rejoice next Saturday. They have nobly struggled through four years of the sternest hostilities that ever tried a people. Beginning without arms, military aptitudes, or fit military leaders, they have fought their way through incapacity, treachery, defeat, disaster, into the position of a great belligerent power. If, once, despots declined to assail them, deeming it unnecessary to their defeat, now foreign hostility is forborne from a consciousness that it could not avail. This people has poured out blood like water and treasure as if it were dross—has piled up pyramids of dead and mountains of debt to assure all gainsayers that the Model Republic is no chimera, is no hyperbole, but the strongest and best-beloved Government on earth, and that it will live and be respected when its foes are dead and forgotten.

If there be any who feel that they have played an unworthy or dishonorable part throughout the trials of the last four years—have been snarling at the heels of the Nation throughout its arduous, dubious struggle—have been so acting that its enemies recognized them as servitors if not virtual allies—let them take no part in the festivities of next Saturday; but for all who have manfully *tried*, according to their best judgment, to sustain their country through the Red Sea pilgrimage which Slavery and Treason forced her to undertake, there will be room and welcome in the ranks of the Loyal Millions who will unite on that day in observances intended to evince gratitude to God and to our deceased and living heroes that our National deliverance is on the eve of consummation.

THE RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

Slavery is visibly dying; but the spirit of caste, wherein Slavery had its origin, is destined long to survive it. Not till men cease to be mean; coarse, brutal, selfish, cruel, will that spirit be extinct. So long as there shall remain a human being who would gladly live without useful labor while consuming the fruits of several men's labor, so long shall we be called to fight against the spirit wherein Slavery has its source and support.

The intrenched line behind which that spirit proposes to make its next stand after the Rebellion shall have been crushed and the Constitutional Amendment ratified is the perpetual degradation and disfranchisement of Colored Men. The formula whereon Sham Democracy proposes to retrieve its dilapidated fortunes is this:

Let Whites who have been plotting or fighting to subvert and destroy the Union be restored at the earliest moment to all the privileges of American citizenship; and

Let Blacks who have been fighting to uphold and preserve the Union be deprived and debarred forever of all the privileges and franchises of American citizenship.

On this basis, it is believed that a party of Rebels and Rebel sympathizers can be formed strong enough to take possession of the Government and give law to the Nation.

Now we are not among those who would protract the War one moment beyond the continuance of the necessity which evoked it. Whenever the Rebels shall lay down their arms and acknowledge the rightful supremacy of the Union [illegible] we would have proscription and confiscation with every thought of vengeance, be discarded so far as the National safety will permit. Kill Slavery, the mother of the Rebellion, and we trust no further killing will be necessary. Restore the ex-Rebels so soon as may be to all the rights of citizenship, but do not say that those who have fought and bled to save our country from ruin shall be forever incapable of voting at her polls. That would seem the basest injustice and ingratitude.

—"But would you let every ignorant, vicious negro vote?"

No: nor every ignorant, vicious person of any color whatever. We deny the right of any man to vote merely because he is a man. If he is so ignorant and vicious that his vote can add nothing to the sum of intelligence and virtue embodied in the popular verdict pronounced through the ballot-boxes, he has no natural right to vote.

Who will contend that an inveterate, lifelong burglar, thief or robber, has a natural right to vote? In this City, all such do vote; ninety-nine in every hundred of them voting regularly the Democratic ticket. So do the blacklegs, the brothel-keepers, the panderers for gain to every form of beastly appetite or vicious indulgence. All these (unless Black) will continue to vote, because the Democratic party cannot spare their votes; but their right to do so is founded not in natural equity but in a clause of the State Constitution. They are authorized to vote for the same reason that virtuous, intelligent Blacks are disfranchised—to favor the Democratic party.

This disfranchisement is of modern origin. Within our recollection, negroes voted not only in this State but in North Carolina, Tennessee, &c., on precisely the same terms as Whites—as they still do in Massachusetts, Vermont, and some other States. But the great pro-Slavery Cotton reaction of 1820-56 against the ideas and principles of our Revolutionary struggle had very nearly swept away the political rights of the Colored Race in this country; so that, in the "Peace Conference" at Washington in February, 1861, Mr. James A. Seddon of Virginia (late Rebel Secretary of War,) coolly proposed to amend the Federal Constitution by adding to it as follows:

"Art. VII. Sec. 1. The elective franchise, and the right to hold office, whether Federal, State, territorial, or *municipal*, shall not be exercised by persons who are, in whole or in part, of the African race."

—Isn't this a lovely exemplification of 'State Sovereignty,' and 'local self-government?'

We have at two several elections struggled for, as we have through life upheld, the principle that Suffrage should be based on Character, not Color. In so far as our State Constitution allows White ruffians, pimps and blacklegs to vote, and denies the franchise to virtuous and estimable Blacks, we condemn and labor to change it. We did our best to have it otherwise when this Constitution was framed and ratified; we tried again and failed in 1860; we mean to keep trying till full justice shall be done. We wish it were now practicable to ingraft the true principle on every State Constitution. Yet we do not propose to continue the War for that purpose, nor to make Black Suffrage an inexorable condition of "reconstruction." Let us have the speediest possible Peace based on Freedom: let discussion and observation pave the way to the removal of such wrongs and unjust disabilities as shall remain. Strangle the serpent Slavery, and the little serpents hatched from her eggs will be slowly but surely eradicated.

A POPULAR LOAN AND THE REBELLION.

The authorities in Richmond regard with the greatest interest the popularization of the Seven-Thirty Loan. *The Richmond Examiner* of the 20th comments with appreciation upon the fact, that "The small denominations of the Bonds ($50 and $100) bring them within the means of small purchasers, and impart to them the character of a popular loan," and it carefully notes the rapid sale of the Loan, and the promise of its being what it terms "a splendid financial success." The concluding paragraph of its careful editorial is full of significance and value: "The effort of the Yankees to sustain this explosive and inflated paper system, has, so far, been marked by great ingenuity, resolution and success. Whether they will succeed in conquering the South depends in a great degree upon their continued success in upholding this paper system."

Most true, and Secretary Fessenden has seen and felt the truth. In his faith in the system, and in his faith in the power and will of the People to uphold it and to maintain the credit of the Government to all the world, he has by adhering to the plan of popular loans, stricken the Rebellion a final and deadly blow.

THE NEW REBEL ARMY.

The letter of Gen. Lee and articles in the Richmond papers will remove the last doubt that on the question of arming negroes in defense of the Rebellion the men who carry the Confederacy in their right hands have made up their minds. Lee declares in terms, "I think the measure not only expedient but necessary." He argues that we shall use them if he does not, and regards the white population of the South as unequal to the long war for which he deems it necessary to provide. Nor has he any doubt that the negroes, "under proper circumstances," will make good soldiers—will fight on one side as well as on the other. His opinion derives the more weight from his good sense in seeing that emancipation is the condition of their service as soldiers. "It would be neither just nor wise, in my opinion, to require them to serve as slaves." And he proposes to call first for volunteers, with the consent of their owners.

An article in *The Enquirer* shows how deeply this measure has stirred the feelings of its advocates. That paper charges upon the Gulf States the defeat of the bill in the Senate, and thereupon indulges in a sort of retrospect which suggests more reflections than are germane to this question merely. The cotton States are reminded that they, and not Virginia, precipitated this war. They are charged with [illegible] a base conviction that they should escape the calamities that were believed to be impending over Virginia alone from a belief that the Tempest would spend its strength on the border States, and that the Gulf States would reap all the benefits and pay none of the cost of such a struggle. It is charged that the oath of alliance "has been broken, and they by whom the first blow was stricken are the first to desert those whose breasts have so far received the fury of the storm raised by others. Monday the mutual compact was broken." And there is much more in the same angry tone. It is even intimated that violence will be used to carry the bill through the Senate. "The Army," says *The Enquirer*, "demands that its depleted ranks shall be strengthened by more men, of whatever color, and it is sometimes impolitic to refuse the demands of an army like that which Lee commands." *The Sentinel* is less belligerent, but equally firm, resorting to entreaty rather than threat; and, being an official organ, scruples not to let out a fact not hitherto stated, that the Rebel House has passed the bill, and that in the Senate it was postponed by a majority of only one.

Beside these demonstrations of the Richmond papers, we have a very thorough and able argument from *The Mobile Register*, for the necessity of the scheme, and an equally vehement though much less forcible address from the Rebel Governor of Louisiana, in support of his original recommendation privately given.

It is idle to suppose the majority of one in the Rebel Senate will hold out against the almost unanimous opinion of the Rebel leaders, and Rebel journals, and Rebel people—a few Hunkerish planters excepted, who like our Conservatives at the North never learn anything and never forget anything. The only doubt in the case is not whether the Rebels mean to raise a negro force, but whether they have not already raised that force. It is shrewdly suggested that this appearance of debate and delay has no other purpose than to cover the proceeds of organization now actually going on. The appointment of Lee as General-in-Chief when he was known as an advocate of arming the negroes, showed that he was to have his own way, and we have a report from a source that ought to be well informed that the Rebels have been for weeks, if not months, busily engaged in drilling an army of negroes, and that at this moment they are about ready to enter the field. It is asserted that they are to bear the brunt of Sherman's advance, and that without evacuating Richmond or even Petersburg, the Confederacy, by the help of this new negro army, will prove itself able to risk a battle for the possession of North Carolina. We do not vouch for the report. There are many probabilities against it. The Richmond papers are too much in earnest to be counterfeiting. The reluctance to overturn the "corner stone" of the Confederacy has been too real. It is but lately that the opposition seemed in the way of being silenced. But the report itself is another evidence that the fact is about to be accomplished.

CURRENCY AND BUSINESS.

The N. Y. Times persists in the suggestion that the decline in the premium on Gold may better be gradual than abrupt—

"Simply because business men have been compelled, if they would do business at all, to buy property at the high rates which the high price of gold has involved—and, if they are compelled to sell it suddenly at very low rates, they are ruined by the operation."

—*How* 'ruined?' A. is a wholesale merchant, with his entire capital invested in such goods as he usually sells, when the Currency suddenly appreciates to par. Of course, he sells off his stock for fewer *dollars* (paper) than they would have brought a month before; but these dollars will buy as much of nearly everything he can want as the larger number he valued his goods at last Fall; so what matters it to him? Even if he owes for them in Europe, his ability to pay is nowise impaired.

If he has run in debt *here* for all or most of them, valuing them and agreeing to pay in 'legal tender,' he will of course fall short: but by whose fault? Why *should* he have run so heavily in debt in times like these? Who can he fairly blame for his misfortune?

The Times asks:

"If gold were to fall instantly *to par*, how many merchants or heavy business men in the country would be solvent at the end of a fortnight?"

—We answer: Just about so many as were *really* solvent a fortnight ago. The kite-flyers and dashing operatives would go under; but these are rather light than 'heavy business men.' Business would hardly miss them.

The Times concludes—

"It seems to us much better every way that the decline in prices should be so gradual that the losses inevitably involved should be shared by the whole community, and not fall on special classes, or a comparatively small circle. They will thus be much less oppressive, and the disturbance of the general course of business will be much less injurious."

—We dissent emphatically from this, and insist that it is better for all wholesome business to come right down to terra firma at once and so soon as may be. A shock is less perilous than persistent atrophy. If prices are to fall gradually through six, twelve or eighteen months, there can be little business meantime, because every one will properly hesitate to buy commodities which are morally certain to be cheaper next month and cheaper still the month after. Every one will be a seller; none but those in urgent need will be buyers. But go right down to the hard-pan at once, and business will immediately thereafter resume its natural, healthy course; men will not fear to buy stocks of goods and hold them till required by customers. Whether the "losses" will be more equally distributed under this policy, we cannot say; but we are confident that they will be apportioned more justly.

NEW-YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD.

The *big* thing before the Legislature the present session is the application of the Central Railroad Company to be relieved from the two-cent passenger fare restriction. It is so big that its success is counted as certain. A measure that secures millions to applicants passes itself; as every influence that can be brought in aid can be most liberally paid. The Central Company can well afford to pay down a million in cash to succeed; and we have no doubt that they [illegible] of assessing two or three millions annually, in addition to their present revenues, *upon the people* of the State.

We propose to set forth some of the reasons why the restriction upon the rate of fares should *not* be removed. It was inserted into the charter of the Company, and eagerly accepted, as a sort of equivalent for the $9,000,000 which the consolidation put into the pockets of the shareholders of the respective roads over and above their cost. At the time of the consolidation, the stocks of the several lines were rated at a premium, and it was provided that their estimated value, over *par*, should be paid to the shareholders in 6 per cent bonds of the new Company—the stock of the new Company to be issued at its par value to the holders of shares in the several lines. The amount of the share capital of such lines, the per centage of premium paid, and the amount, in each case, were as follows:

Name of Company.	Share Capital.	Rate of Premium.	Amount.
Albany and Schenectady	$1,621,800	17	$275,706
Utica and Schenectady	4,500,000	55	2,475,000
Mohawk Valley	1,575,000	55	866,250
Syracuse and Utica	2,700,000	50	1,350,000
Syracuse and Utica Direct	600,000	50	300,000
Rochester and Syracuse	5,608,700	30	1,682,610
Rochester, Lockport and Niagara Falls	2,155,500	25	538,624
Buffalo and Lockport	675,000	25	168,750
Buffalo and Rochester	3,000,000	40	1,200,000
Rochester and Lake Ontario	150,000	25	37,500
Schenectady and Troy	650,000	..	......
Totals	$23,235,600		$8,894,500

This modest sum of $8,894,500, by virtue of the consolidation, the stockholders in the lines that made up the Central put into their pockets in the shape of bonds, which have been selling at 115. To this sum is to be added the cost of the Schenectady and Troy Railroad, a work which had never paid running expenses, and which the grand manipulators of the consolidation bought up for a song and put into the new Company at its nominal cost, thus increasing the premium or bonus paid to $9,544,500. It will also be observed that the shares of two companies—the Mohawk Valley and the Syracuse and Utica direct—were put into the consolidation at a premium of 55 and 50 per cent, respectively, although such companies had never put a spade into the ground. Parties in the interest of the Central were paid a bonus of $1,160,250 for merely *projecting* these lines.

This matter of consolidation was regarded at the time as a great fraud and a great public wrong. But its managers wielded an all-controlling influence in the Legislature and carried it. That body, however, had the firmness to stipulate, by way of protection to the people of the State, and as a sort of equivalent for what it had yielded, that the new Company should never charge more than two cents per mile for the transportation of passengers. This stipulation was embodied in the charter, and was intended to be a perpetual restriction upon the Company.

So vast is the traffic of this road, that, with the enormous load put upon it in the shape of bonuses and extra dividends paid, (for the $9,544,500 affair only repeated what had been frequently done on a smaller scale, by the several companies,) it has always been one of the most profitable enterprises in the country. The dividends paid to the stockholders since the consolidation, and the interest on the premium bonds which have gone into their pockets, have been as follows:

Years.	Amount of Dividend Paid.	Rate.	Interest on Bonus Bond.
1854	$2,114,953	9	$533,670
1855	1,916,483	8	533,670
1856	1,919,564	8	533,670
1857	1,919,564	8	533,670
1858	1,919,564	8	533,670
1859	1,679,720	7	533,670
1860	1,440,000	6	533,670
1861	1,440,000	6	533,670
1862	1,440,000	6	533,670
1863	1,730,400	7	533,670
1864	2,279,173	9	533,670

The average rate of dividend paid has equaled 7½ per cent; the interest annually accruing upon the amount of the bonus bonds equaled 2¼ per cent, making together 9¾ per cent. In the same time the Company have accumulated $3,850,000 to the credit of income account—a sum equal to 15 per cent on its share capital. The net earnings annually accruing for the benefit of the shareholders since the consolidation have equaled 11 per cent. It is rumored that the Company propose to make a dividend of the sum last named. The recent advance in the market price of the stock is said to be based upon such expectation.

Now we submit that the Company have for the past eleven years fared quite as well as the public. It has, in that time, received 122 per cent net upon its share capital. But its appetite is only whetted by remembrance of past plunders. Its managers remained quiet till it was supposed the past was forgotten by a patient people who, by this time, would be ready to bend their broad shoulders for a new burden. It has, consequently, appeared before the Legislature, and in a most suppliant tone asked to be relieved from the compact of consolidation, so far as it operated to its disadvantage, retaining at the same time all the benefits secured from it.

If the Company want this compact changed, why not reconsider the whole matter *de novo*? Let the stockholders place matters in their original position by surrendering that for which they never paid a penny—the bonus bonds. These canceled, the earnings of the Company would be ample for 10 per cent dividends. But they are not content with such paltry rates. The earnings of this road for passengers, the past year, at two cents per mile, were $4,000,000. One cent additional will give $6,000,000 from this source, and increase the net earnings by $2,000,000, which would enable the Company to pay at least 16 per cent, with every prospect of being able to increase it in a very short time to 20 per cent per annum.

Now, we do not believe that the Legislature of this State is prepared to allow a corporation that is already earning and receiving 11 per cent net on its actual capital, to tax the people to the extent of millions for the purpose of swelling such earnings and dividends to twice that rate. We do not believe our legislators are prepared to commit, at the same instant, political and moral suicide. We do not believe they will for an instant entertain a proposition so monstrous, and one for which not an argument but that of money, used in the most corrupt manner, can be urged. Neither do we believe that a great political party is going to throw itself into the embraces of a corrupt and unscrupulous corporation, which has always wielded, and often [illegible] of that party, and which has done more than all other influences to prostrate and debauch the moral sense both of the Legislature and the people.

CURIOSITIES OF THE 7.30 LOAN.

Among the curiosities of the subscription to the Seven-Thirty Loan on Monday, was a request from the Treasury Agent at Santa Fé in New-Mexico, that $100,000 of the Bonds be sent there immediately, as many Mexicans and Americans desired to invest, and had the money in hand to do so. Also, about $15,000 in varied lots paid in by Col. Wagner for some 150 colored soldiers in Camp William Penn. Also, $200,000 subscribed by the Commercial Bank of Tennessee. Also, $137,165 in a single check from "Charley Hyde" of the Hyde Oil Farm, Oil Creek, who not only puts his own money into 7.30s, but gathers up the loose "oil money" around, and sends it forward to be invested for account of its owners. Also, an offer from some miners in California to put $35,500 of compound interest notes into Seven-Thirties, if they would be received. Louisville, Ky., sent forward $3,000, and intimated that Sherman and Grant would soon make Government bonds the rage with all Kentuckians who had money to invest.

We learn from Pennsylvania, in which State the lawful rate of interest is 6 per cent, that a great calling in of farm and other mortgages has begun, with a view to placing country capital in 7.30s, for the higher interest and the greater security and convenience.

Kentucky refuses to ratify the Constitutional Amendment abolishing Slavery. In the Senate the minority report of Mr. Robinson, favoring the amendment on condition that compensation be made for the emancipated slaves, was rejected by a vote of 24 to 9; the House rejected the same report by a vote of 62 to 21. The majority report against the amendment was adopted in the Senate by 21 yeas to 12 nays; in the House by 58 yeas to 26 nays. The Legislature, no doubt, thinks it has saved its honor; but the State will lose its slaves, nevertheless, and lose them without compensation.

Maj.-Gen. George Crook and Brig.-Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, commanding in the Department of West Virginia, were recently surprised in their beds at Cumberland, Md., the headquarters of their department, by a band of sixty or seventy mounted Rebels, who came forty or fifty miles through Union territory, surprised and captured first a cavalry picket, then an infantry post, then dashed across the Potomac into the city, woke up the two Generals, together with Kelley's adjutant, made them dress in a hurry, mounted them on fresh horses, and, supplying themselves with other such, made away into Dixie uncaught and unharmed. If they had only returned on their own jaded animals, we should consider the Confederacy's loss in horseflesh considerably more than the Union's in two Generals who could be thus carried off.

THE FALL OF WILMINGTON.

Official Report of the Capture of the City.

At midnight, on the 24th inst., Secretary Stanton forwarded to Gen. Dix the following official report of the capture of Wilmington, which had been forwarded to the War Department from Fortress Monroe by Gen. Grant at 10 p. m. of the same night. The Navy Department also received intelligence of the occupation of the city from Admiral Porter:

To Gen. U. S. Grant, City Point: Our troops entered Wilmington on the morning of the 22d inst. After the evacuation of Fort Anderson, Gen. Schofield directed Cox to follow its garrison toward Wilmington, while Terry followed Hoke on the east side of the river. The latter took up a new line, four miles from Wilmington, but was so closely pressed by Terry that he could send no troops to the west side. On that side the Rebels made a stand behind Town Creek, but on the 20th Cox crossed his troops below them on a flat boat, attacked them in the rear and routed them, taking two guns and 300 prisoners. On the 21st Cox pushed to the Brunswick River opposite Wilmington, where the bridges were on fire; and on his arrival the Rebels began burning the cotton and rosin in the city, and left it that night. Our captures, including Fort Anderson, amount to about 700 prisoners and 30 guns. Citizens state that the Rebels burned 1,000 bales of cotton and 1,500 barrels of rosin. The Union feeling showed itself quite strongly in the city. Terry followed Hoke northward.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieut.-Col., A. D. C. and Brev. Brig.-Gen.

Report of Rear Admiral Porter.

UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP MALVERN, CAPE FEAR RIVER, Feb. 22, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that Wilmington has been evacuated and is in the possession of our troops. After the evacuation of Fort Anderson, I pushed forward the gunboats up as far as the water would permit. The army pushed up at the same time on the right and left banks of the river. After sounding and buoying out the middle ground at Big Island, I succeeded in getting the gunboats over, and opened fire on Fort Strong, the work commanding the principal obstructions, where the Rebels had also sunk a large steamer, the North Eastern. Our fire soon drove the Rebels away from the fort. Now and then they would fire a shot, one of which struck the Sassacus below water-mark, and set her leaking badly. She was struck once or twice more, but met with no loss of men. That night (the 20th) the Rebels sent down 200 floating torpedoes, but I had a strong force of picket boats out, and the torpedoes were sunk with musketry. One got in the wheel of the Osceola, and blew her wheel-house to pieces, and knocked down her bulkhead in-board, and there was no damage to the hull. Some of the vessels picked up the torpedoes with their torpedo nets.

The next morning I spread two fishing nets across the river. Yesterday evening, Gen. Ames, with his division, moved within a short distance of the fort, and had a sharp encounter with the Rebels. On hearing the musketry and seeing where our troops were, I opened a rapid fire on the fort, and all along the enemy's line. The fort responded with three or four shots, but was soon silenced. This morning we heard that Gen. Terry was within their works, and the road was clear to Wilmington. The Montauk could not get across the shoals without lightening, which was a work of some labor. I had the pleasure of placing the flag on Fort Strong, and at 12 o'clock noon to-day, we all fire a salute of thirty-five guns, this being the anniversary of Washington's birthday.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. D. PORTER, Rear Admiral.

GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

Celebration of the Event—Rejoicings of the People—Terry Pursues Hoke's Army—How Wilmington was Taken—Condition of the City—Our Losses Light—Concentration of the Enemy—A Great Battle Expected at Goldsborough.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1865.

After three years of bloody and fruitless war, the people of the chief seaport of North Carolina see once more the flag of Union floating above them. It is a proud day for the country—a happy day for this people. Wilmington swings back under the dominion of the old flag. The establishment of order; the assurance of quiet from the long reign of turmoil and war; deliverance from the most baleful and most dreadful of military despotisms which ever cursed any country, is welcomed by a delivered people. Salvos of artillery from the Navy at noon celebrated at once the birthday of the Father of his Country and the glorious victory of the combined arms of the Navy and Army of the Union. While I write the troops of Gen. Cox, the 104th Ohio, of the Third Division, are crossing the river into the town at the foot of Market-st., their bands playing "The Star-Spangled Banner." Crowds of citizens of all conditions and shades throng the river front to witness their landing, and follow them in their stately march through the streets of the town. The Admiral's flagship Malvern, gayly decked out in all her wealth of bunting, has just come up to the town and fired a naval salute in honor of the capture of the place. Gen. Schofield's flagship, the S. R. Spaulding, also lies abreast of the town, with all her colors flying.

Meantime the troops under Gen. Terry have pushed on in pursuit of the Rebel army of Gen. Hoke, which, I fear, has too much the start to be easily overtaken.

This glorious result has been attained by the exercise of good generalship, and by the perfect coöperation of the two great arms of the service. No fact is more conspicuous—none more generally admitted—than this. What at first seemed unfortunate in respect to weather and other adverse circumstances, are now seen to have been only providential interferences in our behalf. Gen. Schofield moved his army in two columns—one on each side of Cape Fear River—and by this means so divided the Rebel force and confused him as to the real plan of attack that success was assured almost from the start. The capture of Fort Anderson, which commanded at once the river and covered Hoke's position on the east side of the river, left the latter no alternative but to fall back.

The river once clear, gave us the powerful aid of the navy, which continued to move up and shell one after another of the enemy's positions. Gen. Cox, on the west side, pressed on after the retreating garrison of Fort Anderson; and Gen. Terry followed hard after Hoke, whose demoralized and fast wasting columns seemed but too glad to escape from the Union forces which were steadily, surely enveloping them. The Third Division, fresh from active fighting in Tennessee, under the lead of Casement, Moore, Henderson and Steel, advanced and placed themselves on the line of the Charleston and Wilmington Railroad night before last, and early this morning were in possession of the island opposite the town. Some of the troops of the 26th Kentucky and of Col. Steele's Brigade crossed over and entered the streets of the town. They found it evacuated by the Rebel army, and the people nowise unfriendly upon seeing Yankee troops in the town. The enemy held the place until the last moment, so as to afford us much time as possible to remove the commissary stores and munitions. They only fought our advancing columns on each side to detain us and save time for this purpose.

About 8 o'clock a. m. the troops of Gen. Ames's Division, which had held the advance, and skirmished steadily with the enemy, in company with Gen. Paine's colored troops, took up the line of march, and passing through the outer line of earthworks, three and a half miles from the place, advanced upon the town. All hostile demonstrations had ceased in front; the Rebel batteries were silent, the sandy rifle-pits deserted. Nothing opposed the march. At 9:30 a. m. Gen. Terry and staff entered the outskirts of the city, where the troops, weary with their sandy march, halted for a few moments, and the General rode into the town. The Mayor, John Dawson, esq., met him at the City Hall, and formally delivered the city into his hands. Gen. Schofield and staff followed soon after, and were cordially received by the Mayor and some of the more prominent and influential citizens. Mr. Shackleford offered the General the hospitalities of his house, which were politely accepted, as temporary headquarters of the Department of North Carolina.

Gen. Cox, it was understood, would be made Military Governor. The 104th Ohio, Col. Sperr's regiment, with possibly the 100th Ohio, were detailed as a provost guard, and Col. Jourdan was appointed Provost Marshal. He is already districting the town, and preparing to carry out the necessary regulations for the protection and good government of the place.

As yet there is no general showing of themselves by the prominent or would-be aristocratic portion of the inhabitants. The common people receive us gladly.

Considerable quantities of tobacco and some cotton have been captured. The tobacco will be most welcome to the soldiers; they are literally hungry for the weed.

The large cotton sheds and presses on the island opposite the town have been laid in ashes, and with them a large quantity of cotton has been burned. The wrecks of two steamers—iron—are lying, one sunk, the other afloat, near the cotton presses. The bridges of the railroad were destroyed, but this did not materially interfere with the passage of the troops. Scows and horse-ferry boats furnished ready means for transferring the troops to the town.

The losses have been light. The wounded have all been carefully attended to. Their names will be sent at an early day.

THE ENEMY CONCENTRATING.

All the intelligence we can gather goes to prove that Lee is concentrating at some important point the entire Rebel forces in the South. Some predict a great battle near Goldsboro, when the column of Gen. Sherman reaches North Carolina. The evacuation of Charleston, and so soon after it the withdrawal of the Rebel forces from Wilmington without a general engagement, plainly points to some new and possibly startling programme of the head of the Rebel army.

Our generals here are not indifferent to the importance of the situation.

The losses by Gen. Paine's Division were forty-five wounded on the 20th. The killed were probably eight or ten. The names are not reported.

Gen. Ames had only two men wounded during the march of the 20th. Yesterday, 21st, he had eleven wounded and one killed.

Gen. Cox says that probably fifty will cover his entire loss. Gen. Schofield says, in the absence of official data, he has placed his entire loss since the beginning of operations at not over two hundred. They have all been attended to.

The troops and their officers are in good spirits.

A SCENE ON THE WATER-FRONT.

When Admiral Porter arrived at the town and began his salute, the town shook to its center by the reverberation of his guns. In the excitement of the moment the people seemed to think some new attack had commenced, and there was a general rush of the masses down to the water-front, where they were astonished by the appearance of a whole fleet of steamers, with colors gayly flying and the guns of the Admiral's ship blazing away in a harmless salute which enveloped the fleet in a sulphurous cloud. The whole line along the dock was crowded by a congregation of men, women and children, who seemed delighted at the new and extraordinary change in affairs. The majority were colored people, of every shade of complexion, old and young, manifesting the greatest delight at the arrival of the long-expected Yankee army.

Many ladies, evidently of the middling or poorer class, came out and witnessed the arrival of the troops, and by their pleased expression plainly showed that we were welcome.

The town, which in busy times must have been an enterprising and not unpleasant place of residence, presents just now a gloomy and repulsive aspect.

All the stores are closed, the newspapers have been suspended, and the editors or publishers absconded. There is one respectable drug store open, and no stores for the sale of provisions. The citizens say there is enough here, but that it is hid away. There is a large population of both white and black, which is liable [illegible] Schofield, it is believed, will find something for them to do. The number of white men of middle age and subject to military duty attracts attention. They collect in crowds at every corner, watching with a vacant stare the movements of our troops. They all want 'protection."

EULOGY OF LONG.

The last issue of *The Daily Wilmington Journal*, 21st, before the editor skedaddled, bestows a rapturous eulogy upon the Copperhead Long of Ohio, for his speech of the 7th inst.

The Mayor of Wilmington, Mr. Dawson, is a wealthy man, and report says has made a fortune, and saved it, since the beginning of the Rebellion. He appears anxious to do all in his power for the protection and comfort of his constituents. There are two or three fine churches in town, the largest and best of which are the Episcopalian and Presbyterian.

The streets are sandy and difficult to travel. In Summer it must be intolerably hot. There is also a dangerous quantity of hidden filth, which must greatly endanger the health of the place when hot weather arrives.

SHAD.

It would do your epicures good to see the fine, glistening fat shad which are now being caught here. The prices, however, would startle them: forty dollars per pair!—in Confederate currency.

The Chickamauga steamer has been run high up the north-west branch of Cape Fear River. She will be taken, if not destroyed.

There was a pleasant interview of a few moments on board the Malvern, this afternoon, between Gens. Schofield, Comstock, and members of the staff, and Admiral Porter. The Admiral entertained the distinguished party—including the correspondents of the press—in his peculiarly happy manner. Refreshments were passed, and the occasion was one of universal good feeling. The Admiral thinks we are getting toward the end of the Rebellion.

The opinion among military men is that we are to have a battle of immense proportions before long at some central point in North Carolina. They are ready to meet the enemy anywhere and fight him on any terms. I have written this hurried and imperfect account under the most trying and difficult circumstances, beside being hurried for time to save a departing steamer, all which I hope will atone in some part for its imperfections.

E. S.

FROM TENNESSEE.

From Our Special Correspondent.

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Feb. 20, 1865.

THE MILITARY SITUATION.

Nashville is prolific in sensation writers and sensation dispatches. A couple of weeks since the papers were burdened with glowing accounts, headed with flaming capitals, of a tremendous (I believe that's the word) cavalry force—moderately estimated at sixty thousand—just on the point of starting from Eastport, with Generals Thomas and Wilson at their head, and bent on the romantic little trip of smashing and tearing through the Southern Confederacy, and particularly of making mince meat of Dick Taylor's insignificant army, if it should be so unfortunate as not to get out of the way. To-day, Gen. Thomas is snugly ensconced at his palatial headquarters in Nashville, while the cavalry—something less than sixty thousand, however—are still on the banks of the Tennessee, taking it remarkably easy, and like Micawber, waiting for something to turn up. A couple of days since, to relieve the unusual monotony of the prevailing quiet, the Associated Press were treated to a spicy dispatch to the effect that 400 Rebel cavalry had made their appearance on the Murfreesborough pike, within six miles of Nashville, gobbled up a few of our officers and men, and were playing the mischief generally. This force of Rebels of course looked quite formidable on paper; in fact and reality, however, there were only *five*, and three of those were infantry, the other two being mounted on mules; in short, "not to put too fine a point on it," the gang was a very small and select squad of guerrillas, engaged in a little affair of plundering. The papers have it that the First Division of the Fourth Corps joined Gen. Grant's Army some time since. Trustworthy facts have it that the First Division, or any other Division of the Fourth Corps, did not move a pace for Virginia, but are now having a very comfortable time of it in neat and substantial Winter huts, at Huntsville, Alabama. And so on, to the end of the chapter.

Apart from the occasional depredations of guerrillas, more particularly around Chattanooga, matters are at present very quiet in this department. Those dastardly wretches, when they get a good opportunity, make the blood chill with horror at their fiendish outrages. It is no wonder that our soldiers, when they do catch any of them, are impatient of restraint, and execute summary and condign punishment without the formality of a trial. The principal cause of the present activity among the bushwhackers, is the election just to take place throughout the State, and to intimidate loyal voters from going to the polls. A few days since, the regular passenger train, having a number of ladies aboard, left Nashville at the usual hour for Huntsville. About eight miles north of this place, when passing through a deep cut, it was brought to a sudden and unceremonious halt, a rail having been intentionally misplaced, when about twenty-five armed guerrillas on the bank commenced an indiscriminate firing among the passengers and soldiers. Before the train guard had time to rally, there was one soldier killed and several wounded. The fiends were finally driven off. This is a mild specimen of the style of warfare adopted by some of our erring Southern brethren, and when viewed in its more aggravated and atrocious forms, is it to be wondered at if the radical Unionists of Tennessee should advocate sweeping measures toward those tainted with secession, and be chary of allowing Rebels to have any voice in the reorganization of the State?

Although the main army operations are at a perfect stand-still for the present, I think that, the roads and weather permitting, offensive movements against the enemy will soon be inaugurated. What little force Dick Taylor may have at his command will prove a very slight barrier to the progress of events, and Selma, Montgomery, Mobile and all important points in the Southwest—in fact the whole Southwest will, before a great while, be under Union control. With the present forces under Gens. Thomas and Canby, and in the absence of extraordinary and egregious blundering, such a consummation can hardly be long deferred. The trans-Mississippi Rebel opposition will be of very small moment when once the main insurgent armies are crushed or annihilated, and the territory they now hold is occupied by the Union armies.

Newly-formed regiments are finding their way to this Department. Once in a while they are to be seen streaming through Nashville, on their way further South. The new recruits are generally fresh, strong, and healthy looking fellows, some of them having a penchant for fiddles, which they carry along; others being given to a great deal of boisterous merriment at very slight provocation. I saw a new regiment in Nashville a few days ago, drawn up in line, previous to entering the "Zollicoffer House." A negro soldier happening to pass along, a number of the new-fangled warriors commenced a torrent of hooting and jeering at Sambo's expense. The colored soldier took it all in good part, convinced that a year or so of wholesome, active service would completely change their tune. No soldier in a veteran white regiment would, under the circumstances, have offered the slightest disrespect to a colored compatriot.

COLUMBIA.

This is, or was, at least, a very beautiful town. It is now somewhat crest-fallen and dilapidated in its appearance and surroundings, but still retains a good deal of its former prestige and elegance, reminding you of some seedy individual who, having seen better days, still assumes a sort of quasi dignified, patrician air—a reflex of the good times passed away. With the influx of a healthy Northern element among the population, and Tennessee a Free State, this place will at no distant day, surpass its former self in prosperity and the attractiveness of its surroundings. Hon. A. O. P. Nicholson, formerly United States Senator, is living here now—his former home. This man has never been a violent Rebel, but drifted with the current when Secession was the rage. With the advance of Hood's army into the State, he returned from the South to this place, when he was soon after arrested by Gen. Thomas's order, and retained as a hostage for a Union [illegible] Forrest. A short time since, the civil authorities applied to Gen. Thomas that Mr. Nicholson be handed over for trial, he having been indicted in the courts for conspiracy against the Government. The General immediately complied, and the prisoner is now out on bail awaiting his trial. It is said that he was on his way to Nashville to take the Amnesty oath when he was arrested by the military authorities.

RAILROADS.

For the first time in eight months trains ran last week from Nashville to Huntsville, on the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad. It will be remembered that Forrest completely destroyed the road between Athens and Pulaski, a distance of 25 miles, last Summer. The Johnsonville road is also repaired, and trains are now running regular on all the roads throughout the State.

THE ELECTION.

The State election comes off on the 22d, and there is not the slightest doubt but that the work of the Convention will be ratified by an overwhelming majority. Gov. Johnson has been ill in Nashville for the last two weeks, but I understand he is recovering, and expects to be in Washington by the 4th of March.

The Department of the Cumberland has been enlarged so as to embrace the whole of Tennessee, and, conditionally Kentucky. West Tennessee has, heretofore, been detached from the Department, but under the present arrangement, its control by Thomas will give that General freer scope for proper military combinations, and opportunities for carrying these into execution.

DESERTIONS.

Deserters still continue to swarm into our lines. The number who now report averages somewhere in the neighborhood of eighty-five daily. They all take the Amnesty oath and return to their homes.

L.

The Prairies in Winter.

From Our Special Correspondent.

DONGOLA, Union Co., Ill., Feb. 28, 1865.

I have visited Chicago, Springfield, Bloomington, Decatur and other points, and stopped among the farmers—hence I can speak of the prairies in Winter.

In the southern part of Illinois the Winter has been uncommonly cold. Once in about ten days we have a thaw, the frost comes out of the ground, the mud is deep, in a few days it turns cold, and it freezes solid again. Little farm work can be done. There is an unusual scarcity of grain and feed, although the crops were good last year. The very few who have hay get $25 a ton; corn is $1; potatoes $1; butter from 40 to 50 cents. Most of the time eggs have been 50 cents; now they bring only 30 cents, and occasionally farmers eat them; but they are disappointed that they do not taste better than they did when they were only 10 cents. In fact, when the disappointment is considered, they do not taste so well. However, the children do not understand why they are not as good as ever. Fresh pork has sold at 15 cents, cured at 25 cents. Much of it is as tough eating as the acorns and roots of which it was made. On the farm, wood costs the labor required to cut and haul it—in towns, $2 a cord.

There is great excitement here regarding cotton culture. There is not seed enough to supply the demand, and yet there is enough in the country to plant very many thousand acres. Men are coming hither from distant places to raise cotton. They desire to rent land. Every acre that can be spared has been rented or will be planted by the owner. In some places parties have agreed to pay from $8 to $10 rent per acre; the price of the same land, cash down, is from $12 to $15. Those who get good land, who work the crop well, and who understand the business, will do well even if they get no more than 25 cents a pound for their cotton. Of course, some will fail. I never could see any profit likely to arise from renting land and long ago I decided never to work on another man's land. It is better to own the land one works on, even if it be only ten acres. I would like to own land if for no other purpose than to have a family graveyard. I am saying this of the Western country, for on account of the health or some other cause, graveyards are very scarce.

On the prairies cold weather has been more steady; there has not been much snow, the roads have been good and the usual Winter work has not been interrupted. It has been a good time to haul corn to the stations. On the black soil prairies, at least within the central belt of the State, (150 miles wide) the average of the corn crop was about 60 bushels to the acre. The price has been about 60 cents a bushel, in the car. I noticed some sales of corn made in the crib; they ascertain the amount by computing (two and one-tenth square feet for a bushel). Last Summer I gave you a description of the corn-fields. Last week I saw the streets of the towns crowded with wagons loaded with corn. They haul about 30 bushels to a load, all in the ear. One easily could see a hundred wagons at a time, while on all roads other wagons were coming in. So many teams never come in except on a political occasion. On inquiry the farmers told me that their clear profit on an acre of corn will average $25. They hold the land at from $30 to $40 an acre. The majority of such farms are without a pebble or a tree. This prosperous condition is an improvement on five years ago, when the cheapest fuel was corn.

However, in many sections north of the central belt, the crops were poor, owing to the ravages of the chintz bug. South of this belt they were poor because the farms are managed on the slave system. If Slavery had no other sin to answer than the result it has on the soil of our country, it deserves the gibbet. Slave farming produces all the results that follow from wire worms, caterpillars, rust, smut, chintz bugs, weevil, Hessian fly, locusts, army worms, borers, slugs, grasshoppers, drought, whirlwinds and hail. The final results are, degradation, brutality, starvation and depopulation.

Two years ago farmers expected much from the white willow; they bought cuttings largely; it was thought they would make a fence in a few years; most of them failed to grow; there is great disappointment. The cuttings were too small. Few were larger than a pipe stem; some were smaller. The wood was not ripe. They should be at least as large as one's thumb. A farmer showed me a nice fine tree which grew from a good sized cutting, and he values the tree highly. He knows how to make the cuttings grow. I still believe the willow valuable. Good cultivation is required. There are places where they turn both cattle and hogs. They will make a stockade, not a hedge. The meaning of hedge is a thicket of thorn bushes, or small bushes. The willow becomes a high tree.

I find many preparing to plant orchards. They are encouraged by the success of those who planted a few years ago, and now have some fruit. With thrifty, low-headed trees, good culture, and by keeping off caterpillar's nests, an orchard soon comes into bearing on these rich prairies. But the high prices many of the farmers are paying for trees is surprising. One man told me he bought 200 trees of an agent for $50; afterward he concluded he would get 200 more, and he went to the Bloomington Nursery and got them for $30. He found out, too, that the agent he first bought of got his at the same place. Thus, it cost $20 to listen to the agent's stories.

When it snows or blows on the prairies it is bitter cold. For miles there is no shelter. Barns are few, shelters for cattle fewer. Stables are made of straw. They want trees. Trees will grow well. In seven years, Dunlap at Champaign, has raised a nice little forest of silver-leaf maples. Many of them are 25 feet high. Phoenix says if he were going to commence life again he would plant pines for saw-logs. Indeed, he has commenced a pine forest of several acres. Let one look at Saul Edwards' evergreens and he will see how they grow. Mr. Galusha also is successful; so is every one who plants and properly cultivates. Walnut trees grow finely, so do most trees. Farmers should plant trees. If there were no other way they should get up at midnight to do so.

Everywhere I went I heard complaints of the Legislature, and I dropped in to see how things were going. This body must have the credit of repealing the Black Laws, of accepting the Constitutional Amendment, of passing a bill for a House of Refuge, and some other things; but some of its legislation is as repugnant as the Black Laws. They passed a horse-railway bill for Chicago against the protest of the Common Council and the property-holders of the city. So unjust and unusual were some of its provisions that the Governor vetoed the bill. Then they passed it over his veto. What earthly object they could have by such action it is hard [illegible] on the highest authority, that parties in Chicago offered a very large sum to go to the city for the charter; now the city gets nothing. It is freely charged that they were bribed. It is to be hoped that we shall learn how much money they valued their characters at, as well as their hopes of reëlection to any responsible post hereafter. It is known that the majority was Republican, but in these acts the Democrats united with them.

At the opening of the session they voted themselves $6,000 worth of stationery, and divided what remained among them. The Speaker, Mr. Fuller, was the only one who protested. They could not have used $1,000 worth; some said they did not use a quire.

They voted to pay themselves in gold. When they went to get their pay the Treasurer, James H. Beveridge, told them that they had voted to have the interest on sterling bonds paid in gold; he could not pay gold to both; besides, greenbacks were legal-tender, and he would give them nothing else. Good for Beveridge!

The sheep interest of the State demanded a tax on dogs, but it was found that a majority of the members represented dogs and not sheep. Many thousands of dollars have been paid by this State as a bounty on wolf scalps. The sheep men tell me the dogs kill ten times more sheep than wolves. It seems, then, that by their action, the legislators are in favor of the animal that kills most sheep—and that the wolves are to be exterminated because they do not kill as many sheep as the dogs do. Such a body properly passed the Chicago Railroad swindle.

The farmers of the State had been looking with great interest to the action of the legislature on the Agricultural College. On full consultation and discussion the friends of the institution had passed a judicious bill. Messrs. Reynolds, Turner, Roots and others who long have had the measure at heart, and who first brought it before Congress anxiously watched the proceedings. The outline of the plan was, to have the fund concentrated on one institution and which should be independent of any other school. Then a committee on location was to be appointed who were to receive proposals, and after some three months' consideration, locate. This did not suit our law makers; a bill was brought before the House to have three different schools, and two were located. It was seen at once, that with the funds neither school could be good for anything, and the outcry was so great that nothing further was done. Hence we must wait three or four years before we can have an Agricultural College. All these things come from the uniting of the Republicans with the Democrats. I mean by this, the corrupt of each side. They made a majority. The minority are good and true men. "On that day Herod and Pilate were made friends."

Among other things this body entertained a motion to remove the State Capitol, principally because there are not hotels enough in Springfield. This is absurd, for not one in ten of the members board at the hotels. They stop with private families, and find good places. Springfield is a large, nice town; everything is convenient, and to remove the Capitol would be very unjust.

Then they had to take the Illinois Central Railroad in hand. It was an odious monopoly. It was proposed to represent to Congress that according to its charter it shall carry troops and supplies for the Government free during war. I believe there is such a provision in the charter of this company, but of course no one expected we were to have a civil war of this magnitude, and Government so looks on it, for it pays them a low rate. To my mind the grant of land was no great bargain, because the road runs such a vast distance through thinly settled regions. Before the war the Southern Division did not pay expenses. Perhaps the same is to be said of the main line from Centralia to Dunleith. Least of all can the Government complain, for it granted to the Company only each alternate section, and fixed the price on what remains at not less than what it was willing to sell the whole for. Some time before the road was built the land was all sold, and some of it as high as $14 an acre. Had the road not been built much of this land would to-day be unsold, and the State would be poorer by many millions of dollars. If the Government now is to come with the above claim they will break up the road. Repeatedly has Government taken full possession of the freight department; even for two months past no person could get a pound of freight shipped except by express, and I know of flour being shipped by this means, in considerable quantity, fifteen miles, at a dollar a barrel. There are grievances regarding this and other roads which the Legislature ought to look to, but in this particular they show a want of both facts and sense. I would like to see them take hold of some of the express companies. They are the most rapacious, unreasonable, irresponsible and heartless of all corporations. A man can collect no damages of them unless the sum be large enough to make it worth while to go to law. At least this is my experience.

By every sign it is apparent that in this State the Republican party is on the verge of dissolution. The people demand it. But so long as the qualifications of our legislatures remain unchanged, remedies will be temporary. Additional qualifications are imperatively demanded. Men of sound moral principle are required; next, they must be practical, with a full knowledge of the wants of the age and of the people, they must know what makes the wealth and strength of a state; finally, they must have a knowledge of law, and must be familiar with the rules which govern legislative bodies. Such do not now exist. The demand will furnish a supply. Our Agricultural Colleges are destined to be the nurseries—the West Points of legislators.

Professional lawyers dictate in our legislatures, not because they know what laws are best, but because they know best how to frame laws. Theirs is a triumph of words, not experience. Give the practical man the weapons of language and law and he will conquer.

I think I see in the accumulation of capital, in the strong hold which religion has among farmers, in the great progress of agriculture and mechanic arts, whence some time for reading and thought, and in the diffusion of knowledge that the time speedily will come when the more professional lawyer will not be considered competent to take the law in legislation.

N. C. M.

IMPORTANT MUSICAL INVENTION.

The Cycloid Piano-Forte.

There is no article of home luxury to the improvement of which such earnest attention and such costly experiments have been directed as to the piano-forte. During the past twenty years great changes have taken place in the internal construction of the instrument, especially as regards the scale, which has been enlarged so as to admit of a greater length of string. The instrument is now strung with heavier wire, an increase of nearly double over the old style of stringing; the case is also, generally, larger both in depth and length. It would be useless to chronicle the thousand small inventions which were claimed as positive improvements upon the piano, but which were really of but little importance. Sound boards have been crumpled up on the plea that increased vibratory surface was obtained; plates have been insulated and completely detached; bottoms have been taken out, a second sound-board has been added; hammers have been made to strike downward; the case has been half filled with blocks of wood, and again the case has been left entirely empty; the oblique strain of the strings claimed to have been remedied; iron has been substituted for wood for the cases; the key-board has been arranged with a semi-circular sweep; tuning forks, or metallic tongues, have been substituted for strings; but none of these infinitessimal inventions have succeeded in establishing their claims as permanent improvements. The improvements which have really been accomplished in the past twenty years are, first, the enlargement of the scale; second, the increased length of the string; third, the heavier stringing; fourth, the increased area of the sounding board; fifth, the increased power of the action and heavier hammers; sixth, the scientific adaptation of the iron plate, combining the utmost possible strength with lightness; and, seventh, the system of over-stringing the bass.

These accepted and permanent improvements are now adopted by every maker, and the superiority of any one instrument is dependent upon fortuitous circumstances, artisans in the various departments, and the amount of honest care bestowed upon the manufacture. The belief that the best instruments (we speak, of course, of square and upright piano-fortes) can only be made by the largest manufacturers, is a popular fallacy that should be exploded. There are many small makers in this city, whose instruments are eminently beautiful and whose work is faithful and sterling in every respect. There is another fallacy which is rapidly exploding itself, namely, the value of professional testimonials. So long as professional players and teachers, whether for a consideration or not is a point between themselves and the manufacturers, gave their testimonials, or written opinions, to all good makers, they were of value to each according to his *use of means to advertise the facts to the world*; but as soon as certain players and teachers bind themselves to certain houses, and declare that what they have testified to for other houses before is all fol-de-rol, or a tissue of no-such-things, their so called testimonials become of less value than the paper on which they are written, and their motives are left open to very grave suspicion. The public begins to understand the value of testimonials! Good wine, they say, "needs no bush;" neither does a good piano need testimonials from professional gentlemen, four-fifths of whom are profoundly ignorant of the construction of the instrument, or of what constitutes its real merits.

The Cycloid piano, made and patented by Lindeman & Sons, of this city, presents a radical change in the form of the piano, and while adopting all the improvements which have resulted from past experience, exhibits a novelty in construction which adds a value to all that has gone before, and presents increased advantages of such importance that they cannot be overlooked. The form of the Cycloid may be described as a square piano with the back corners rounded off. The sweep is very graceful, and the ugly square box is transformed into an elegant piece of furniture, beautifully finished all round, forming an ornament to the parlor, and taking up much less space than the ordinary square piano.

The object designed to be obtained by this change of form is elegance, compactness and strength. In the square piano the sides and back are glued together, and to strengthen these weak points heavy blocks of wood are inserted, so that the whole space of the two back corners is utterly useless for reverberating purposes. They are simply wasted wood, and are only valuable inasmuch as the blocking they contain strengthens the inherent weakness of the square case.

The Cycloid piano achieves the *form of the arch*, which is recognized as the type of strength, and is in fact a solid case, in one piece, with no weak spot about it. By the system of constructing the case, more strength is obtained than could be got from a solid block, either cut out, or bent to the cycloid form. The case in fact consists of from twenty-four to twenty-six veneers, one-fourth of an inch thick, of maplewood, glued together; these are placed in a press of the cycloid form to which are affixed screws of great power. This force is applied equally to every part, which forces out the superfluous glue, and, when cold, these veneers come out a solid mass, having the required cycloid form, with all the strength of an arch, and capable of sustaining any strain of strings that can be applied to it, without "giving" a hair's breadth. The scale of the instrument follows the circle of the case, so that not an inch of space is lost; and there is not an angle in the interior to break the continuous flow of the sound. The theory of acoustics in its general laws, as laid down by Chladni and others, may be looked upon as exact and thorough, but individual cases seem to defy all rule and set the most well-considered theories at defiance. Whether the cycloid form or the square form is the better in theory is a point for savans to decide upon, but the result of the two forms is palpable to every ear, learned or unlearned. The tone of the cycloid is as solid as that of a grand piano-forte; it is not merely loudness, which is always liable to impure and loose vibrations, but it is the largest amount of sonority, with the greatest purity in quality of tone. A powerful player can use it as he would a grand, and he cannot break the tone; he cannot thin it or confuse it by forced diverging vibrations. Gottschalk tested it in every way to the utmost, and acknowledged that it triumphed over the test that he had applied.

But it is not in force alone that the purity of the Cycloid is preëminent; in the medium tone and in the pianissimo it is surpassingly beautiful, and even the soft pedal can be used without destroying the pure and individual quality of the tone. In addition to this, while each tone is round and distinctive, in close or spread harmony, no one tone predominates, but a perfect accord of combined tones swells up to the fingers, and dies out without one dominant vibration. The "singing" power partakes of the same purity of quality. It can be prolonged in a remarkable degree, and the quality of the vibration does not change or "lift," but preserves its roundness until the sound has ceased. The Cycloid possesses one other point of superiority over the common square piano, namely, the power of standing in tune. The whole structure is so compact, so solid, so rigid and unyielding in its strength, that it will remain up to concert pitch from its first tuning, allowing for the stretching of the strings, and will not fall a shade for months.

These qualifications are great in their significance, and elevate the class of instrument, hitherto represented by the square piano, far above its present position as a musical instrument. The tone is larger, purer, and more beautiful every way; and for strength and durability in its initial excellence, we believe that it will prove superior after years of trial to every other plan of construction. Its mechanical details and workmanship are of the best quality, and its touch is all that can be required by the most exacting professor or amateur. The system upon which the present Cycloid piano is made is equally applicable to the grand and upright form, and we look forward to the result of the experiments in this line which will, we understand, be immediately proceeded with, as a matter of vital interest to refined and civilized communities all over the world, for there is hardly one respectable homestead in which the piano is not considered not merely as a luxury but a necessity.

We consider the Cycloid piano as a great advance upon the prevailing system of construction, and as approaching as near a perfect instrument as our present knowledge enables us to conceive or to construct.

The firm of Lindeman & Son has been established in this city for over thirty years, and consists of the father and three sons. Their reputation has always stood high as manufacturers, and the Cycloid piano by its surpassing excellence, the result of years of experiment, will place them more prominently and permanently before the public.

MARRIED.

ANDREWS—McENTEE—On Thursday, Feb. 23, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. William Irvin, Capt. John N. Andrews, U. S. A., and Lucy, daughter of James S. McEntee, esq., of Rondout, N. Y.

AVERILL—DIEFENDORF—On Wednesday morning Feb. 15, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Homer Eaton, Horatio F. Averill of New-York city, to Miss Permelia M., only daughter of Peter Diefendorf of Fort Plain, Montgomery Co., N. Y. No cards.

HARDING—BRUSH—On Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the residence of the bride's mother, Bridgeport, Conn., by the Rev. T. S. Lathrop, Watson Harding of Hartland, Vt., to Hester E. Brush, youngest daughter of the late Martin Brush of New-York. Vermont papers please copy.

PRICE—WENTZ—On Wednesday, Feb. 15, at Christ Church, Binghamton, N. Y., by the Rev. Charles Platt, Geo. A. Price of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Addie A., daughter of Wm. Wentz, esq., of former place.

STEVENS—WITTINGHAM—On the 28th January, at Holy Trinity Church, Cloudesley-square, Islington, Benjamin Franklin Stevens, esq., of No. 17 Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, to Charlotte, eldest daughter of Charles Whittingham, esq., Richmond Villas, Barnsbury, Islington, and of the Chiswick Press.

UNDERHILL—CONKLIN—On fifth day (16th inst.,) at West Somers, Westchester Co., by ceremony of the Society of Friends, Alexander Underhill of Brooklyn, to Emma Conklin, daughter of James W. and Deborah Conklin, of the former place.

DIED.

BARLOW—At Sing Sing, on Thursday, Feb. 23, David E. Barlow, aged 30 years and 10 months.

BAYAUD—At Sterling City, Colorado Territory, on Wednesday, Jan. 18, of congestion of the lungs, Thomas J. Bayaud of this city.

CHATFIELD—Killed instantly, on Thursday, Feb. 9, 1865, while in an engagement with the Rebels, near Volusia, Florida, Lieut. Henry Whitney Chatfield, Adjutant 17th Regiment Conn. Vols., of Bridgeport, Conn., aged 21 years and 6 months.

[illegible]—At Binghamton, N. Y., on Wednesday, Feb. 15, James [illegible]

DEVORE—On Wednesday, Feb. 15, at Louisville, Kentucky—a victim of the barbarity of guerrillas in Georgia—Bessie J., wife of S. H. Devore of Tenn., and daughter of the Rev. R. G. Dickson.

FAIRCHILD—In Darien, Conn., Feb. 20, Thomas Clark, son of Philander K. and Eunice A. Fairchild, aged 1 year and 3 months.

FERRIS—On Saturday, Feb. 18, at Westfield N. J., Elizabeth Hayes, wife of Josiah S. Ferris, in the 73d year of her age.

FOWLER—At Wolcottville, Conn., Feb. 22d, Mrs. Rhoda Fowler, aged 74 years.

HALL—At New-Canaan, Conn., on Sunday, Feb. 12, 1865, Mary H. Hall, aged 31 years.

HAND—At Milburn, N. J., on Tuesday, 21st inst., Jane M., wife of Isaac M. Hand, in the 74th year of her age.

HIND—At Ghent, Columbia Co., on Sunday, Feb. 19, after a lingering illness, L. Salome Beebe, wife of John C. Hind, in the 71st year of her age. Dutchess County papers please copy.

HOPPER—On Saturday, Feb. 11, 1865, Mrs. Susan Hunter, the wife of Charles Hopper of Rye Neck, Westchester Co., N. Y. She was born at Lloyd's Neck, L. I., Jan. 19, 1814.

KELLOGG—At Hartford, on Sunday morning, Feb. 19, Mary Hawks, only child of Rodney and Mary E. Kellogg, aged 24 months.

LUCE—At East Norwalk, N. J., Friday, Feb. 24, of diptheria, Jacob D. Luce, M. D., aged 24 years.

MARVIN—At Chicago, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1865, Henry C. Marvin, Counsellor at Law, of Brooklyn, New-York, aged 28 years.

MERRITT—Of diphtheria, at West Farms, Westchester Co., on the 25th inst., Mary Pearsall Merritt, daughter of Eliza Fox and the late Benjamin Merritt, aged 4 years.

MORGAN—On Saturday evening, Feb. 18, at his late residence, Lindleytown, Steuben Co., N. Y., after a brief but severe illness, the Hon. Albert C. Morgan, aged 60 years.

OGDEN—At Elizabeth, N. J., on Friday, Feb. 24, 1865, E. B. Dayton Ogden, Justice of the Supreme Court of New-Jersey.

PARISH—Suddenly, on Monday, 20th inst., in Baltimore, Moses P. Parish, late of this city, in the 62d year of his age. Massachusetts papers please copy.

REDPATH—On Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1865, on his way from Chicago to New-York, William J. Redpath, aged 30 years and 6 months.

THORN—At Clinton Hollow, N. Y., on Saturday, Feb. 4, of paralysis, Sarah, wife of James Thorn, in the 77th year of her age. Providence, R. I., papers please copy.

WALDRON—On Saturday, Feb. 18, at Stonington, Ct., Geo B. Waldron, aged 45 years.

WAYNE—At North Broadalbin, Fulton Co., N. Y., on Monday, Feb. 13, 1865, Mr. Thomas Wayne, in the 75th year of his age, a native of England. Manchester, England, papers please copy.

Deaths of Soldiers

IN THE HOSPITALS IN AND ABOUT NEW-YORK

For the week ending Feb. 24, 1865.

REPORTED WEEKLY FOR THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, BY L. A. CASE, GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKER, NO. 397 GRAND-STREET, N. Y.

Anderson, Benjamin, age 33; Co. E, 11th N. Y. Cav.; died at David's Island; residence when enlisted Rensselaer Falls, N. Y.

Avery, Stephen, age 14; 10th Cav., 12th Maine; died at Fremont Hospital; residence when enlisted Saco, Me.

Cannon, John; died at Fremont Hospital; residence when enlisted Sinking Springs, Ohio.

Clandell, Nicholas, age 35; Co. H, 20th Illinois; died at Fort Schuyler; residence when enlisted Berlin, Wis.

Dymond, George, recruit; Co. D; died at Fort Columbus.

Edson, Alonzo, age 27; Co. F, 2d Wisconsin; died at Fort Schuyler; residence when enlisted Illinois.

Fairchild, Adison, age 17; Co. B, 56th New-York; died at David's Island; residence when enlisted Windham, Greene Co., N. Y.

Geering, John, paroled prisoner, age 34; Co. C, 165th New-York; died at Fort Columbus.

Hartfield, John, Rebel; Florida Home Guard; died at Fort Columbus.

Jones, George; U. S. C. T.; died at Hart's Island.

Kinsley, Benjamin, age 19; Co. K, 203d Pennsylvania; died at Fort Schuyler; residence when enlisted New Harbor, Pa.

Loomey, William H., age 28; 26th New-York Battery; died at David's Island; residence when enlisted Rochester, N. Y.

Murray, Beverley, age 23; Co. I, 1st U. S. C. T.; died at Willett's Point; residence when enlisted Alexander, Ala.

Mattson, James, age 31; died at Fort Schuyler.

Picquard, Emele, age 29; Co. F, 2d N. Y. Cav.; died at Willett's Point; residence when enlisted New-York City.

Platner, William H., age 19; Co. F, 14th New-York; died at David's Island; residence when enlisted Tompkins, N. Y.

Rimeret, Isaac B., age 17; Co. C, 203d Pennsylvania; died at Fort Schuyler; residence when enlisted Watson, Pa.

Sammis, John, recruit, age 18; Co. D; died at Fort Columbus.

Stevenson, Major James M., Rebel, age 41; 36th N. C. Troops; died at Fort Columbus; residence when enlisted Wilmington, N. C.

Shoemaker, A., age 46; Co. H, 1st Ohio Cav.; died at Fort Wood; residence when enlisted Hillsborough, Ohio.

Stone, Addison J., age 25; Co. E, 66th Illinois; died at David's Island; residence when enlisted Nooga, Cumberland Co., Ill.

Stover, John, age 23; Co. H, 203d Pennsylvania; died at Fort Schuyler; residence when enlisted Lancaster Co., Pa.

Wilson, David A., age 17; Co. M, 11th New-York Cav.; died at Willett's Point; residence when enlisted Waddington, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

Wilson, James, age 43; Co. A, 11th Iowa; died at Fort Schuyler; residence when enlisted Jasper Co., Iowa.

Young, Clark, age 17; Co. I, 22d Ohio; died at David's Island; residence when enlisted McClary, Noble Co., Ohio.

The Weekly Tribune.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1865.

The Tribune in London.
STEVENS BROTHERS (American Agents for Libraries, 17 Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, W. C.), are Agents for the sale of THE TRIBUNE. They will also receive Subscriptions and Advertisements.

The Rebel papers of Feb. 27 contain news from Gen. Sherman down to the 24th. That is, they contain dispatches from Charlotte showing that he had not up to that time reached that place. There is no other intelligence whatever from any portion of the force now operating under Sherman's command. Such rumors as were recently brought by the Arago from Charleston—the capture of Augusta, and the like—are entitled to no consideration. Gen. Sherman has no communication with Charleston, and authentic information of his movements is not likely to reach us from that city.

This, however, is certain: that Sherman has thus far suffered no check or reverse. If such a thing should occur, we shall have news of it at the very earliest moment from the same papers which now carefully suppress all hints of his victorious advance.

The strong interest felt in the progress of Gen. Sherman makes us impatient for information, and impatience grows naturally into anxiety. But we may be perfectly sure that while we do not hear from Sherman, he is doing well. Before he started from Savannah he knew that he must provide for the chance of confronting the whole or nearly the whole of the Rebel forces in the Atlantic States. Those who are prone to be apprehensive of misfortune may reflect that General Sherman took quite as many probabilities into account as they can. Every soldier knows that a movement which depends upon the union of converging columns for success is intrinsically hazardous. Be sure Sherman knew it, and consider therefore that one of two things is true: either his plans admitted of no interference, or they were independent of anybody's cooperation. We are quite ready to adopt the latter theory, and to believe that Gen. Sherman, without the help of a single battalion from the coast, is abundantly able to fight his North Carolina battle.

Maj. Gibson, of the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry, while scouting with 110 men on Feb. 19 in Ashby's Gap, near the Shenandoah, was assailed by a Rebel company of 40 men, and most disgracefully routed—none of our men being killed or wounded, but two-thirds of them captured! The Rebels took just about twice their own number as prisoners. The excuse made for the cowards is that they were armed only with carbines, while the Rebels had revolvers, and that the road was so narrow and bad where the encounter occurred that two horsemen could hardly ride abreast. He must be a fool who don't know that the narrowness of the pass was an advantage to the party acting on the defensive, and that carbines would there have beaten revolvers out of sight, had thirty men with souls in their bodies dismounted and formed across the pass, those behind loading and handing up carbines for those in front to fire and drop. In a service where such shameful poltroonery [illegible], it is a wonder that we ever have victories.

The Senate on March 1, by the close vote of 21 to 19, gave way to the House in the matter of the 20 per cent. extra added as a gratuity to the salaries of its employés by the latter, and it has passed. No less than $43,000 are thus wickedly squandered when thousands of our brave soldiers deplore the sufferings of their wives and children caused by the inability of the Government to pay promptly their $16 per month. Of the Opposition Senators, Messrs. Carlile, Hendricks, Johnson (Reverdy), McDougall, Nesmith, Powell, Riddle and Wright (9) voted to give way, while only Mr. Buckalew voted to stand firm. This grab is made in behalf of Unionist place-holders; yet it is passed in either House by Democratic votes.

We had supposed that one of the proper functions of an Opposition was to resist needless or inordinate expenditure; yet the present Opposition is found steadily voting to swell expenditure for every other purpose than the defense of the National life.

The Senate on March 1 passed a bill increasing the amount of bonds to be issued in aid of the Construction of the Pacific Railroad and branches to $100,000,000. That is enough to build those roads if economically expended. The measure is thoroughly atrocious, and the Committee that reported it ought to be indicted. The Pacific Road, carefully located and frugally built, will pay a fair interest on its construction, from the time it is half done—and if Congress had adhered to its original offer to aid it by the loan of the National credit to the extent of $16,000 per mile (say $30,000,000 in all) to be secured by a first mortgage on the road and all its belongings, it would have done quite enough. We regard this new bill as naked robbery, and shall ask the next Congress to repeal it.

The Senate on Monday by 24 to 11 voted to postpone the Louisiana question. It may be presumed this settles the matter for the present session, and that the Banks State Government, Senators, Representatives—in fact the whole concern—have leave to stay out in the cold till next December.

The $600,000,000 Loan bill passed the Senate on March 1 as it came from the House. It will of course be signed. We have high hopes that not a dollar of this loan will ever be needed or negotiated.

The House on March 1, on a report by Mr. Washburne of Ill., passed off-hand a bill to repeal the act of last session under which agents are appointed to buy cotton, &c., in the disloyal States. The act is proved to have led to great abuses—in fact, nothing else could have been expected. The policy of the measure was radically wrong, and its consequences sure to be bad. We trust the Senate will not hesitate to concur in passing Mr. Washburne's bill.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill, reported by the Judiciary Committee, repealing so much of the joint resolution explanatory of the Confiscation Act of July, 1862, as prohibits the forfeiture of the real estate of Rebels beyond their natural lives. The vote was close—72 yeas to 71 nays.

The Wisconsin Legislature has ratified the Constitutional Amendment abolishing Slavery by joint resolution, the Senate vote being 27 to 6, and that of the House 72 to 16. Wisconsin makes the eighteenth State that has voted for a free country.

The Constitutional Amendment was defeated in the New-Jersey Assembly on March 1, by Democratic votes, of course. The yeas and nays have not yet reached us.

A friend writing to us from Philadelphia, says: "I saw this afternoon many, very many working men and women in their working clothes, bring in to Jay Cooke's office their little savings of $50 and $100, and buy the $50 and $100 7.30 bonds. Don't let anybody hereafter talk to me about the permanency of a Government in whose permanency the working classes are depositors! Unshakable and eternal is the State which is in debt to those of its citizens who depend upon their daily labor for their daily bread."

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

The Annual Election in this State takes place on Tuesday after next, (March 14th,) when a Governor, three Members of Congress, Council (of five), Senate (of twelve), and House of Representatives are to be chosen. It is hardly doubted that the Union State Ticket will be chosen and the two Union Members of Congress reëlected. In the 1st District, Daniel Marcy (Dem.) would be easily run out, but for a feud in the Union ranks—Thomas E. Sawyer of Dover having been nominated by a bolt from the regular nomination of Gen. Gilman Marston of Exeter, which gives Marcy a chance to slip in again. The vote of the district last Fall and for Congress in '63 was cast as follows:

Counties.	Congress—'63. Eastman.	Marcy.	President—'64. Lincoln.	McClellan.
Belknap	1,770	2,007	1,855	2,216
Carroll	1,905	2,580	1,782	2,509
Rockingham	5,401	4,787	5,819	4,477
Strafford	2,903	2,585	3,094	2,550
Total	11,979	12,059	12,550	11,752
Marcy's maj.		80.	Lincoln's maj.	798.

—If Gen. Marston should be beaten by the bolters, we think most of them would live to regret it. But we trust he is not to be beaten.

MEXICO.

There is some speculation in the journals as to the truth or probability of a Havana report that the satellites of Maximilian at Matamoros have expelled our Consul and refused clearances to all vessels bearing the flag of this country. Without passing upon the question mooted, we sincerely hope the report may prove true. Matamoros is a Mexican port, but its trade is substantially Confederate, and tends to nourish and sustain the Slaveholders' Rebellion. The less there is of it, the better for the National cause; and the fewer of our ostensibly loyal [illegible] their own reputations. We wish Max. would shut up the port of Matamoros; failing that, we will thank him to drive our flag thence, and keep it away.

SAN DOMINGO.

While the Spaniards are on the point of evacuating San Domingo, new dissensions seem to have broken out among the National party. According to the *Boletin Mercantil* of Porto Rico, a new revolution has occurred at Santiago, in consequence of which President Polanco has been deposed and imprisoned. Rojas has been provisionally appointed President until the election of a new President by popular vote. The cause of this revolution was said to be a defeat of Polanco by Pedro Martinez, who, at the head of four hundred insurgents, attempted to hoist the Spanish flag at Santiago. There were several other rumors, all unfavorable to the Dominican cause; but, as they come from a source by no means remarkable for accuracy, they need confirmation.

MILEAGE.

The Express, in a Washington letter, says:

"The Ways and Means Committee, a thoroughly trustworthy official authority, reveals the fact that the system of Congressional Mileage is unjust, unequal and inexplicable. In all instances, it seems to work to the advantage of Senators, and to the detriment of Representatives. For instance: an Ohio Senator is paid $532, while the Representative from the same town receives $100 less. Kansas Senators receive each over $2,000, being near $1,000 more than the Representative from the same State. The law regulating Mileage needs thorough amendment."

—All right, except the word "reveals." The facts have been spread before the country long since, especially in these columns. The People well know that the system on which Congressional Mileage is charged and computed is not only "unjust" but rascally. They know also that it is not corrected, simply because *those who profit by the wrong are those who alone have power to correct it.* The Ways and Means Committee, for instance, might easily have knocked it stiff by inserting in the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill, after the item providing for the payment of Congress, a clause substantially like this:

"*Provided*, That, from and after the 4th of March, 1865, the allowance of Mileage to each Member of Congress and messenger who brings the electoral vote of a State to Washington shall be twenty [or ten or fifteen] cents per mile by the most direct mail route from his residence to this capital—the same to be computed by the topographer of the Post-Office Department, and paid only on his official certificate."

—That proviso, thus introduced, could not well have been defeated; and it would have saved the Treasury at least $100,000 per annum now wastefully, wickedly squandered. Having done nothing practical in the premises, what right have the Committee aforesaid to stir the subject to prejudice the Senate and justify another wrong?

JUNIUS HENRI BROWNE, one of our escaped correspondents, will deliver a lecture, "Secessia Seen Through Prison-Bars," embracing his observations and experiences during twenty months of captivity in Dixie, after the 1st proximo. He can be addressed at THE TRIBUNE Office, or that of *The Times*, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A NEW NOVEL.

In THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE of Friday, March 3, we will commence "The Hillyars and the Burtons; a Story of Two Families," the last novel of Henry Kingsley, now in course of publication in *MacMillan's Magazine* (London.) The scene is laid partly in England and partly in Australia, and the story deals with a family of the aristocracy and a family of the people, whose fortunes are strangely interwoven and dependent upon each other. Those who wish to secure the reading of this capital novel, the best of the day, should subscribe at once for THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE.

THE FALL OF CHARLESTON.

Continued from First Page.

Lieut James F. Haviland, 127th N. Y. Vols., arrived in a boat at the front of the South Atlantic wharf, at 10 o'clock, on Saturday. Col. Bennett sent the following note to the Mayor of Charleston:

A SURRENDER DEMANDED.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES, CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 18, 1865.

Mayor CHARLES MACBETH, *Charleston*.

MAYOR: In the name of the United States Government, I demand the surrender of the city of which you are the Executive officer.

Until further orders all citizens will remain within their houses.

I have the honor to be, Mayor, your obedient servant, A. G. BENNETT, Lieut.-Col. Commanding U. S. Forces, Charleston.

Before receiving this note the Mayor had sent a Committee of two Aldermen to Morris Island with a formal surrender of the city. This is his note:

THE MAYOR'S SURRENDER.

To the General commanding the Army of the United States at Morris Island:

SIR: The military authorities of the Confederate States have evacuated this city. I have remained to enforce law and preserve order until you take such steps as you think best.

Very respectfully, your obd't servant, CHARLES MACBETH, Mayor.

The boat which carried these Municipal Peace Commissioners (from the right side *this* time) was stopped by the boat conveying Col. Bennett, and a conference ensued which ended more satisfactorily than the Hampton Roads ditto. Col. Bennett sent back a note acknowledging the receipt of the Mayor's, and promising to lend every possible assistance in extinguishing the fire then raging with uncontrollable fury.

THE NEGRO TROOPS ENTER CHARLESTON.

The first national soldiers that landed in Charleston in the capacity of masters of the Rebel city, were the South Carolina negroes (thank God!) of the Twenty-first United States Colored Troops. There was also a detachment of the gallant Massachusetts Fifty-fourth, who were the first negro troops to demonstrate on Southern soil the splendid fighting qualities of the colored race. They were the heroes of Fort Wagner, where Shaw lies buried "under his niggers," as the brutal ruffians reported. The Pennsylvania Fifty-second formed the rest of the forces of occupation.

Soon the Star-Spangled Banner floated from the tops of the Custom-house, the Citadel, and the Arsenal—waving for the first time here over free soil and a people free.

All the public buildings were immediately taken possession of, and detachments stationed to guard them.

OFFICERS IN COMMAND.

Gen. Schimmelpfennig commanded the Northern District of the department of the South, which extends from Charleston to Hilton Head.

Lieut.-Col. Bennett is Provost-Marshal, and Mayor Willoughby, Assistant-Provost-Marshal. Two companies of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts are doing Provost-Marshal duty. At every public building the tidy negro sentinels can be seen, halting citizens, ordering them back, or examining their passes. They are well behaved gentlemen, and contrast very favorably with some of the Rebel citizens. I heard of one citizen, a woman, who complained of them as insolent.

"INSOLENCE" OF THE COLORED TROOPS.

[illegible] person.

"No," she said, "the Yankees don't; but your negroes do."

"They do not insult *you*, do they?"

"No, not me; but they do others."

"What do they do?"

"Oh! they won't turn out of the sidewalk for you, and they will go up to a white man and ask him for a light for their cigars!"

To appreciate this enormity fully, it should be known that it is a part of the unwritten laws of South Carolina that every negro on meeting a white person on the sidewalk shall give them the inside—or "the wall." Some seditious Yankees have probably advised the negroes of the fact that this *lex non scripta* is repealed, or at least played out.

Since one of our soldiers went into a Catholic cathedral in Mexico, and requested a priest to give him one of the tapers to light his cigar at, there has probably nothing been done by American troops so offensive to the feelings of the natives of a conquered country as was perpetrated when the first negro soldier stepped up to one of the scions of the chivalry here and asked him for a light. "But things like this, you know must be, after a famous victory," as the uncle of little Peter Kinvey judiciously remarked.

THE MASSACHUSETTS FIFTY-FIFTH.

On Tuesday evening, about seven o'clock, we heard prolonged and hearty cheering in a neighboring street. I ran in the direction indicated by the shouts, and found that the Massachusetts Fifty-fifth (Colored) regiment had just landed in the city:

John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave,
John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave,
John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave,
His soul is marching on!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
We go marching on!
We'll hang Jeff Davis on a crab apple-tree,
We'll hang Jeff Davis on a crab apple-tree,
We'll hang Jeff Davis on a crab apple-tree,
As we go marching on!

Imagine, if you can, this stirring song chanted with the most rapturous, most exultant emphasis, by a regiment of negro troops, who had been lying in sight of Charleston for nearly two years—as they trod with tumultuous delight along the streets of this pro-Slavery city, whose soil they had just touched for the first time—imagine them, in the dim light of the evening, seeing on every side groups of their own race—men, women, maidens and little children, who greeted them with a joy that knew no bounds save that of physical ability to express itself fully—imagine them, as they finished their song of triumph, unite with equal ecstacy, in joining in that other thrilling melody:

Down with the traitor,
Up with the flag—

Imagine them cheer, as only triumphant troops can cheer, in honor of the "stars and stripes," and "Massachusetts," and "Governor Andrew," and you may conceive, (albiet very faintly,) the sublime and unequaled scene that I had the privilege of witnessing on Tuesday night in Charleston.

I heard a Lieutenant of the 55th, in command of Company I, give the order—"*Shoulder* ARMS," and in a minute afterward shook hands with him, for he was an old acquaintance. Who do you think he was? The son of William Lloyd Garrison!

DAHLGREN AND GILLMORE!

Major-Gen. Gillmore and Admiral Dalgbren, as I told you in my last dispatch, landed in this city on Saturday morning. It is said that whenever a negro was told that it was Gen. Gillmore who commanded the National army here, a broad grin would at once make him show how fine a set of teeth he had for his own private use. It was a happy accident that enabled Gen. Gillmore to be in command of this Department now. It makes the triumph poetical and complete.

BLOCKADE-RUNNERS.

A fine, fast blockade runner was in the harbor when the city was evacuated, and now flies the stars and stripes. It is the Syrene. On Monday night still another walked the waters like a thing of life, and woke up to find itself in a Union harbor, an easy prize to the fleet which it thought it had eluded. It is an old offender—the Hope. It is believed that there are others nearly due. They will be allowed to come in, freely. Our success is making us a little careless. I believe there are naval officers who would just as lief as not let all the blockaders still afloat come in here now.

CANNON CAPTURED.

No official report has been made yet of the number of Rebel cannon captured. It is certain (unless the best-informed officers are very much mistaken) that we have considerably over one hundred pieces, and it is confidently asserted that we will have over two hundred. They are scattered at this moment from Bull's Bay to Sullivan's Island—nearly all of them are valuable prizes, although they are all, or nearly all, spiked. Two magnificent Blakeley guns (six hundred pounders), one of them stationed at the "Battery" here, the other at the fort near the Custom House, were exploded on Saturday morning, by order of Gen. Hardee. It is worth a trip to Charleston to see the damage done by the bursting of the gun at the battery. It has completely ruined a large and princely house (the property of Mr. De Saussure) which is situated about a hundred yards from the spot where the gun was planted. Every pane of the thick plated glass is broken into little pieces, and the whole interior of the house is torn frightfully. The exterior fared no better.

WHITHER AWAY?

The Rebel troops who occupied Charleston have gone toward North Carolina, and, when last heard from, were supposed to be at Cheraw.

WHERE IS SHERMAN?

The Rebels here report that Sherman has taken Columbia, and it is believed that he was shelling it some days ago. Our authorities know nothing more than the Rebels report, as they have had no recent communication with him.

COTTON—AUGUSTA.

It is understood that the Rebels are making active preparations to evacuate Augusta and to burn all the cotton now stored in that city.

COTTON—CHARLESTON.

There is a quantity of cotton hid away and buried in and around Charleston; but what is in cellars will soon be brought to light, and, as Pope said of Johnson, we may say of the rest of it, that it will "soon be deterré." There are also ordnance stores concealed—but in vain, as the omnipresent negro was there to see it and is here to tell. The quantity of cotton supposed to be in Charleston and vicinity is estimated at from two hundred to five hundred bales.

FOREIGNERS.

Testimony seems to agree as to these facts: That the Irish of Charleston, as a class, have been the enemies of the Union; that the Germans, with rare exceptions, have been loyal and true; while the English and Scotch have jealously preserved their own nationality, but, when not neutral, have been regarded as favorable to the North.

VISIT TO FORT SUMTER.

On Tuesday we accompanied Gens. Gillmore and Webster to Fort Sumter. Gen. Gillmore generously extended the coveted opportunity to visit the now classical ruin to a large number of loyal ladies and gentlemen. We went out in the W. W. Coit, which soon lay off the fort on the side nearest to the city. A steamer had sunk near the Fort. We landed in small boats, as the water is quite shallow there. The General and staff and some ladies landed in the first boat. The wall to the right of the fort, looking toward it with the back to the city, is about forty feet high, one corner being strengthened by heavy timber-work outside. In the center it is perhaps about twenty-five feet high on an average. This side, of course, has been less damaged than those which were exposed to the fires of the batteries on Morris Island and to the fierce bombardment of the iron clads.

You enter through a very low passage-way, a hundred feet or so in length, and emerge into an area of about an acre. Viewed from the inside, the walls, or rather defenses, look high and are really formidable.

The fort originally was a pentagon, built of brick, stately and high. Every one is familiar with its external appearance before the insurrection. Its siege has revolutionized the style of brick or stone-wall defenses are far less efficient than earthworks or lines of gabions. Gabions are large, deep wicker baskets filled with earth or sea or quartz sand. The brick walls of Sumter that faced Morris Island are almost entirely demolished; but behind where they stood are layers after layers of gabions, with terraces and bomb-proofs both for soldiers on duty at the guns on the parapets, and as quarters for the officers and men. The defenses average, I should think, about 100 feet in thickness. Every shell that demolished a portion of the exterior brick wall, therefore, only strengthened the defenses, as it tossed the brick from positions where it was of little use to make the interior lines heavier. Sumter reminds one of the innocent criminal, who told her confessor that she loved to be ruined.

The bomb-proofs of the sentinels and soldiers on duty are little sleep holes, down which they ran and hid themselves as soon as they saw the smoke of the guns on Morris Island, remaining there until the shell exploded. The heavy siege guns are concealed and protected beneath these impregnable defenses, and are worked in underground galleries. The quarters of the officers and men are also bomb-proofs—underground, or rather undergrablon rooms; commodious and safe, if neither commanding a good view nor extremely luxurious. The area is entirely unoccupied, with the exception of a railway which runs from the entrance toward the officers' quarters on the further side. To guard the fort against an attack on the sides that have been battered down, there are wires stretched along the parapet and lines of *chevaux-de-frise* at the bottom to trip up and arrest the charge of an assaulting party. The fort, which looks like a ruin, is thus stronger in its dilapidated state than it was in its original state. On the left hand side, looking from the city, heavy timber works protect the old brick walls, which are there quite high, but were badly damaged by the bombardment of the monitors under Admiral Dupont.

Here a proper description of such a scene is necessarily somewhat exceedingly obscure; but those who desire to see how Fort Sumter looks on the exterior, can find accurate drawings of it in Gen. Gillmore's recent book on the siege, and two of Frank Leslie's artists took sketches of the interior during our visit to it.

When Gen. Gillmore and his party reached the parapet of Sumter, they waved their hats and cheered. It was a gratifying sight for a patriot to witness—our general who had bombarded it so long, now *there* as its master.

I reached the same parapet myself. I saw a young officer, looking musingly and long toward Morris Island—sitting there, the old flag floating over his head, apparently unconscious of everything around him. He walked away at last—rather haltingly, for he was lame and wounded—still gazing toward Wagner. It was Lieut. James, (a son of the distinguished author,) who was wounded in that celebrated assault on Fort Wagner, which Shaw lost his life and gained his immortality. He is on Gen. Gillmore's staff now, his wound being unfitted him for active service in the field.

Our flag was hoisted at Fort Sumter on Saturday last, by Capt. Bragg, a young officer of Gen. Gillmore's staff. Long may it wave there!

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

At an early hour this morning all the steamers, blockade-runners, and supply ships in the harbor presented a brilliant and beautiful appearance. They had all their flags displayed, and at 12 o'clock a salute, in honor of The Father, was fired from every vessel. The negroes, men, women, and boys, crowded the wharf and manifested, as usual, the sincerest delight. "When I seed dem flags" said one of them, "I say 'ta no use for de Rebs to fight de Yankees."

Mr. Gay, the agent of the Philadelphia bounty to Savannah, invited a large party to dinner to commemorate the day. Gen. Webster (Chief of Gen. Sherman's staff), presided. The dinner was held at the house of a colored man, noted (like the New-York Downings and the Boston Smith), for being the chief of the class of caterers in Charleston.

The entertainment passed off very pleasantly, and concluded by a comic song (of genuine negro humor) by a party of colored men. It was one of the few comic songs that are of negro origin, for most of their melodies are sad and plaintive. A colored band (Robert Lord's) was in attendance, and did credit to themselves as well as added much to the festivity of the assembly.

RAISING THE FLAG.

The band, after the guests dispersed, went up to the new post-office, which is kept in a "Wayside Home"—Rebel "soldiers' home"—and played Yankee Doodle, Hail Columbia and other popular and patriotic airs. A large crowd of colored people and soldiers attended, and even the white Rebels of the female persuasion peeked through their window blinds to witness the ceremony.

Speaking of raising the flag in Charleston reminds me that Major-Gen. Anderson has been invited to come down and hoist the original flag over Sumter. The Rebel flag was discovered hidden among the rubbish there. It is as torn and rent as the Confederacy it represents.

TORPEDOES AND TORPEDO BOATS.

It has been ascertained that the Rebels have a number of torpedo boats hidden in some of the creeks twenty-six miles from Charleston. It is thought that they intend to make a raid on our vessels some fine night; but the best laid schemes of men and greybacks gang oft agley.

The river and harbor is being dragged for torpedoes. None have been found yet. On the wharf, I saw long bars of iron, about twice the thickness of railroad bars, twenty feet or more in length, with links which connected them, and also held torpedoes in position. Negroes who had worked on them said that these bars had been stretched between Fort Sumter and Sullivan's Island, but that the current was so strong that it had bent the iron and thereby displaced the torpedoes. The Rebels took them up about eleven months ago. There is no doubt whatever that the arrangements of the insurgents for a desperate defense were admirably devised, and that they meant to hold the city to the death had an attack been made from the sea. There is a masked battery at the landing, and strong forts at two or three other commanding positions.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

Above a druggist's store in Meeting-st., there is the figure of a man pounding in a mortar. A shell has taken off the head and the right arm. It has a grotesque appearance. It is interpreted to mean that all make-believes are played out in Charleston. It will be a sad thing for some men who wish to be thought loyalists, if that is a correct rendering of the figure!

WALKS IN CHARLESTON.

After passing beyond "Gillmore's Town," the appearance of Charleston changes. There are now no indications of ruins save closed-up stores and streets comparatively deserted. And, as the day advances, it is seen that there is a fair proportion of adult male white citizens left—although they are mostly old men, deserters and foreigners. Gov. Aiken estimates its present population at from 15,000 to 20,000. There are large numbers of negroes, not so many, of course, as before the Rebellion (for then they were as plentiful as blackberries) but in view of the action of the insurgents in evacuating other cities. The mulatto ladies are more numerous here, and handsomer, than in any Southern city I ever visited, (and I have seen nearly all of them) with the exception, perhaps, of New-Orleans; and there, although they are often beautiful, they do not bear that relative proportion to the white citizens that they do in Charleston.

Wherever we went we found the negroes gathered in groups, especially the women, their dusky faces beaming with joy. Any salutation to them was invariably received with the liveliest satisfaction—often answered by "God bless you," and other words of gratitude to the Lord and the Yankees, whom they look on as His agents.

ROSA'S MOTHER.

Our washerwoman at Hilton Head was a talented and lady-like colored person named Rosa. Her manners would have done credit to any drawing-room. Her husband and she, with two other slaves, escaped from Charleston three years since, by a bolder movement [illegible] They went out one moonlight night in a little canoe, and paddled past Fort Sumter, so near it that they saw the sentinels pacing to and fro on the battlements. They were taken up by a gunboat, and went to Boston, where they lived a year, when they came back to Hilton Head, in the hope of being able to reach Charleston.

Rosa asked us to try to see her mother, and tell the old woman that she still lived and would join her at an early day. She thought that her mother was at Gov. Aiken's and we went there; and one of his ex slaves conducted us to her house, proud to be able to render any service to the Yankees. In one of the rear buildings of a third-class house, the old woman was living. Ex-Gov. Aiken's ex-slave threw open the door, and with quite a dramatic air introduced my friend "Carleton," as, I suppose, no American was ever introduced to any one before:

"Here's comes de great Messiah wid news of Rosa!"

The old woman sprung up with a half-scream, half-shout of joy, grasped his hand in both of hers, and, looking up reverently, the tears streaming down her furrowed cheek, gave utterance to emotions of gratitude to her God so touching, so fervent, so thrilling, that I cannot think of it yet without feeling my own tears begin to well up. Neither in prayer-meeting or in pulpit have I ever heard such unalloyed devotion. Carleton was so overpowered with sympathetic emotion that he wept almost as much as the old mother. I will not attempt to give her words—for the cinders only tell of the fire to those who have felt its warmth. The words were simple and broken and uncouth; but the soul of the Royal Psalmist never surged with a more genuine devotion. She offered to share her scanty lot of meal with us and to cook for us; she pressed us to call on her again and again, and as we parted the old mother bent down and fervently kissed our hands.

And yet the devil-fiends of the South dare to say that these people have no enduring affection for their children—that they suffer no more than the herds of the fields do when they learn that their little ones have been sold away from them. This Rebellion did not come too soon, either for our good or theirs, and unless we are ready to do the fullest justice to the slaves—our truest and almost our only friends in all the South—it cannot last too long. And until then, "damned be he who first cries 'hold, enough.'"

NEGRO AND WHITE LOYALTY.

There are white loyalists in Charleston, but thus far they have shown themselves, with but two exceptions, to be infinitely inferior to the negroes in courage. They take you by the button-hole, away in some corner, or where they are certain that we are all Northern men, and tell how they have always been true to the Union. They are afraid to fling out the flag; afraid to rejoice openly with us; afraid to say that their soul is their own—which indeed is doubtful. But the negroes cheer us, bless us, dance for joy when they see our glorious flag—pray for us, fight for us, "can't love us enough," as they beautifully express it. The negroes may be an inferior race up North, but not down here by a good deal.

THE REBEL FAMILIES.

The Rebel families in Charleston are perfectly cowed. They live in terror of us. Thus far they are as well behaved as spaniels. It will depend on the administration here whether this appropriate sentiment of subordination, (which *they* have taught is proper and necessary in an inferior race,) shall continue until they repent of their iniquities, or whether (as at Huntsville, Ala., and elsewhere,) they shall soon begin to assume the old airs of arrogant presumption. We shall see.

MAN THE BREACH!

There is a stronghold here in Charleston, a mental Fort Sumter, in which a breech has been made that we should instantly man and woman too—mount with our monitors in broadcloth and crinoline, *Ignorance*. The negro population, here as everywhere, are eager to be taught. Hitherto, the barbarous laws of this heathen State have forbidden any one to teach the loyal population—that class, at least, who are loyal without ifs or buts, or any other form or style of qualification; the colored people. Send along the teachers, Massachusetts and New-York, without an hour's delay. Preparations will be made at once to receive them, and to set them to work as soon as they arrive. Gen. Webster appreciates the importance of this movement, and will give it every aid in his power. Doubtless, Gen. Gillmore will do so, also; but as I have not yet spoken to him on the subject, I write only from my general knowledge of his character.

Let the daughters of New-England who are living cheerless and aimless lives at home make a dash for the City of Charleston instantly!

A MISUSE OF MILITARY PHRASES.

A recent editorial in a Charleston paper, by the misuse of a military phrase, conveyed a false idea of the intentions of the Rebels. It announced that Charleston would be "the last ditch" of the Confederacy. Now, there was no intention whatever of making it a ditch of the Rebellion. It never was a ditch. It was a sink of the Rebellion. It had always been a sink. Now, although a ditch and a sink are both diggings in the ground, they are entirely distinct things, and are applied to wholly different uses in military life. One is for defensive, the other for offensive operations. A little reflection, therefore, will convince any candid mind that Charleston could *not* be a ditch; and, moreover, it will show the importance of using words correctly that have a military as well as a common signification.

GONE TO GRASS.

At the beginning of the Rebellion or of the threats of Rebellion, Mr. Caleb Cushing predicted that the grass would grow in the streets of Boston and New-York if a civil war resulted from Mr. Lincoln's election. The prophecy has failed—rather signally; and I inclose you a handful of proofs of it. I pulled this clover and grass at noon to-day in front of the Charleston Hotel and the Mill's House—which, before the Union was dissolved (according to the theory of Mr. Cushing's Southern friends), were always the busiest parts of Meeting-st., the chief business street of the city. I wish you to send it to the Boston Athenæum for permanent preservation, to be bound up, if possible, with Mr. Cushing's speech. Could a better reply or a fitter illustration be devised for it?

A RELIC OF THE MERCURY.

I have another relic, which is equally curious. We went to the office of *The Charleston Mercury*, but found that Mr. Rhett, its editor, had Rhett-ired, and carried his printing press and types along with him. But, on a standing galley, there was half a column of what the printers call "dead matter"—type that has been used for an issue of the paper and is ready for "distribution." It was almost entirely composed of advertisements, but there were three lines, which seemed significant of the character of the Southern leaders—full of brag even when getting ready to run away—that I took the liberty of securing them for posterity, just as it had been "set up" for *The Mercury*:

"*There are no indications that our authorities have the first intention of abandoning Charleston, as I have ascertained by careful inquiry.*"

THE CHARLESTON COURIER.

There was a rather humorous scene at the office of *The Charleston Courier*. The editors had run away, but the business man remained and hoped to save his property. Col. Woodford called at the office at an early hour, and the following conversation took place:

Col. W.—"Whom have I the pleasure of addressing, sir?"

Newspaper proprietor—"Mr. L——, sir."

Col. W.—"Will you do me the favor, sir, to loan me a sheet of paper?"

Mr. L.—(Looking at the Colonel's shoulder-straps)—"Certainly, sir, certainly."

Col. W.—"Thank you, Mr. L——, might I trouble you for pen and ink?"

Mr L.—"With pleasure, sir."

Col. W.—(Begins to write)—"Really, sir, I am sorry to trouble you so much, but this ink won't flow; will you be good enough to get another bottle?"

Mr. L.—Oh, certainly, sir; no trouble at all.

Col. W.—(*writes*)

OFFICE PRO. MAR. GEN. D. S., CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 20, 1865.

SPECIAL ORDERS—No. 1.

"*The Charleston Courier establishment is hereby* [Mr. L. saw the writing and looked startled and troubled.] *taken possession of by the United States.*"

Mr. L. could not endure this any longer, for he was silly overlooking the manuscript, and burst out:

"Colonel, surely you don't mean to confiscate my property. I opposed nullification—*in eighteen-thirty!*"

The Colonel tells this story with great zest, as the nearest approach to loyalty in Charleston that he has met among the white people yet.

LOYALTY IN CHARLESTON.

There are a few white Unionists here, but they are chiefly of foreign birth, or poor, and many of these are of the "Union as it was" sort. A number are beginning to claim that they have been Union all along but were compelled to talk secession to save themselves.

"Why, you people here who claim to be Union," I said to one of the prominent citizens, "seem to have been greater slaves than the negroes. You say you were *compelled* to say what you did not believe?"

He winced a little, but replied: "Yes, it's a fact, sir; you have no idea of what people had to submit to here who were not fire-eaters."

THE OLD NEGRESS.

In walking along one of the battered down streets in "Gillmore Town," Carleton of *The Boston Journal* and I came up to an old colored woman, whom he spoke to as we passed. But she was not disposed to let us go on. She grasped our hands, and told us how grateful she was to the Lord that we had come. She was 69 years old, she said, but she danced for joy on Saturday. And she sang a song then which she immediately sang to us. It was one of the simple chants for which the negroes are noted—repetitions of the same lines, with a certain rythm but without rhyme, sweetly sung in plaintive tones:

"Ye's long been a-comin',
Ye's long been a-comin',
Ye's long been a-comin',
For to take de land;
And now ye's a-comin',
And now ye's a-comin',
And now ye's a-comin',
For to rule de land."

A chorus "bressed de Lord" for our coming, but I failed to remember it.

"You are glad the Yankees are come, then?" said Carleton.

"O! chile," she said, "I can't bress de Lord enough. But I doesn't call you 'Yankees.'"

"What do you call us, then?"

"I call you 'Jesus's Aids,' and I call you's head man 'de Messiah.'"

She went on in the singular way in which the negroes express their emotions of religious gratitude—for it is worthy of note that those colored people who are of a pious turn invariably blesses us *agents of Providence*, and give unto God all the glory. "I can't bress de Lord enough" and "Bress you chile, we can't love you enough" are phrases that I have heard here more than once in walking along the streets.

The last words of the old negress were as fine as anything I ever heard these good people utter. "When Mr. Gillmore fire de guns," she said, looking upward, "and I hear de shells a sailin' ober my head, I say 'Come, dear Jesus,' and I feel nearer to Heaben dan I eber feel before."

THE WHITE WOMEN.

An English woman told us that it was amazing to see how the women of Charleston urged their husbands, brothers and sons into the army at the early stage of the Rebellion. "Preachers and women brought on this was," said an old colored man who spoke of the same thing. One lady declared that she would set fire to her own house rather than that the Yankees should capture the city. She still lives, however, and she has not lighted the torch as yet.

HEATHEN TEMPLES AND OTHER RELICS OF BARBARISM.

I must omit all special descriptions of particular buildings and localities, and give but a few rough notes only, as I have already far outrun all ordinary letter limits. Nearly all the heathen temples called churches here, in which they worshipped a god who instituted and ordained Human Slavery, have been smashed into

by Gillmore's bells. All the banks are similarly broken—dead broke. The offices of the Charleston Mercury and Charleston Courier received similar notices to quit from our forces.

We visited all the slave pens, and broke them open. What a tale of wickedness these letter books do tell! We carried off, among us all, the entire correspondence of these establishments, the bell, the auctioneer's block, the lock, and one sign.

Over one slave-trader's desk are now inscribed these

"TEXTS FOR THE DAY:"

"I am an Abolitionist; I glory in the name."—[Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."—[Isaiah.

"Put a pike in the hands of a slave and you make a man of him."—[John Brown.

"On to Richmond."—[THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE. Feb. 23, 1865.

CARTHEGE EST DELENDA!

I write this last paragraph in the editorial rooms, down town, of *The Charleston Mercury*. The window glass and sashes are shattered by shot. Over the mantle-piece, in pencil-marks, are written these lines, which show that the irrepressible spirit of radicalism (but on the right side now) seems to inhabit the office still:

For President in 1868,
WENDELL PHILLIPS, of Massachusetts;
For Vice-President,
FREDERICK DOUGLASS, of New-York.

Shades of Calhoun—how are the mighty fallen! Surely, the great nullifier's bones must rattle in impotent rage at the overthrow of his heathen philosophy.

BERWICK.

GEN. GRANT'S OPERATIONS.

SUNDAY, Feb. 26.—All is quiet. Recent rains have converted the roads and the country into one vast quagmire, rendering army movements for the present impossible. Considerable disgust was manifested by the soldiers at the fact that any loyal papers had allowed themselves to entertain, for a single moment, the rumor started by secession gold gamblers and indorsed by *The Philadelphia Press* that our army had met with a reverse. The rumor was still current in camp that the enemy was preparing to evacuate Petersburg. Estimates of Gen. Lee's strength, made from the best authority, prove him to have from 60,000 to 75,000 men, of which, it is supposed, he has sent South to Beauregard from 10,000 to 15,000. It is not considered probable, in military circles, that troops would be sent North to join Lee, as they would not be sufficient to enable him to attack Grant with any prospect of success, and their only hope is to impede and harass Sherman on his march northward, whose movements, so far, have been so completely enveloped by his cavalry, that they do not know within a hundred miles of where he will strike next, and, consequently, have been unable to concentrate on his front.

A recent letter from our correspondent in the Potomac Army says that it is now a fact that the Rebel army in our front is surely breaking up by heavy desertions. On the 20th ult. up to that 200 men came into our lines, most of them with their arms. They are from the Third and Fourth Corps generally, with a few from the Second, which lies on the left of their line. These men say that a still greater number of men desert the other way—that is, they "leave for home." From this it may be deduced that 5,000 men are quitting the Rebel ranks each month—that is, since Winter set in. Two men from Johnson's Division of the Fourth Corps recently told me that in that division there exists a secret organization among the men, to break up when the occasion presents itself. All hope is lost among the rank and file, who see nothing to gain from a continuation of the war. I could not get any details of this alleged plot; but the two men stoutly assert it to be a fact.

[Advertisements.]

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from IRRITATION OF THE THROAT AND HOARSENESS will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES." These demulcent ingredients allay Pulmonary Irritation, and, after public speaking or singing, when the throat is wearied and weakened by too much exercise, their use will give renewed strength to the vocal organs.

CHEVALIER'S
LIFE FOR THE HAIR.

Restores gray hair to its original color, stops its falling out in three days, keeps the head clean, cool and healthy, will not stain the skin, or soil the whitest fabric. The best hair dressing in the world. Can be used freely; contains nothing injurious; strengthens and promotes the growth of the weakest hair. *It is recommended and used by the first medical authority in New-York.* All are freely invited to examine this wonderful triumph of science. Sold at the drug-stores and at my office, No. 1,123 Broadway, where advice as to the treatment of the hair will be freely given. Price $1 per bottle; $5 per half dozen.

SARAH A. CHEVALIER, M. D.

Has Nature an antidote for acquired diseases? All who suffer believe they ought to and can be cured. The PLANTATION BITTERS prepared by Dr. DRAKE of New-York, have no doubt benefited and cured more persons of Dyspepsia, Nervousness, Sour Stomach, Loss of Appetite, Sinking Weakness, General Debility, and Mental Despondency, than any other article in existence. They are composed of the purest roots and herbs, carefully prepared, to be taken as a tonic and gentle stimulant. They are adapted to any age or condition of life, and are extensively popular with mothers and persons of sedentary habits.

Remarks from Chemical Analysis.
After a CAREFUL EXAMINATION of HELMBOLD'S PREPARATIONS, they enjoy our utmost confidence. We consider them safe and reliable.
NEYBERS & YATES.
Philadelphia, June 12, 1860.
HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA cleanses and renovates the blood, instils the vigor of health into the system, and purges out the humors that make disease.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.
QUERU'S COD LIVER OIL JELLY,
APPROVED BY THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.
For Coughs, Colds, Bronchial and Tubercular Consumption, Scrofula and General Debility. The most mild, bland and nutritious form in which Cod Liver Oil can be used, and with more benefit secured to the patient by a single teaspoonful of this Jelly than by double the quantity of the clear or unjellified Oil. For sale by E. H. TRUEX, WHOLESALE DRUGGIST, No. 15 BEEKMAN-ST., NEW-YORK.

From the Largest Manufacturing Chemists in the World.
I am acquainted with Mr. H. T. HELMBOLD; he occupied the drug-store opposite my residence, and was successful in conducting the business where others had not been equally so before him. I have been favorably impressed with his character and enterprise.
WILLIAM WEIGHTMAN, firm of POWERS & WEIGHTMAN, Manufacturing Chemists, Ninth and Brown-sts., Philadelphia.

DYSPEPSIA AND FITS!—A Sure Cure for these distressing complaints is now made known in a Treatise on Foreign and Native Herbal Preparations, published by Dr. O. PHELPS BROWN. The prescription was furnished him in such a providential manner that he cannot conscientiously refuse to make it known, as it has cured everybody who used it, never having failed in a single case. It is equally sure in cases of Fits as of Dyspepsia, and the ingredients may be found in any drug store. Sent free to all on receipt of five cents to pre-pay postage. Address Dr. O. PHELPS BROWN, No. 19 Grand-st., Jersey City, New-Jersey.

A CARD TO INVALIDS.
A clergyman, while residing in South America as a missionary, discovered a safe and simple remedy for the cure of Nervous Weakness, Early Decay, Diseases of the Urinary and Seminal Organs, and the whole train of disorders brought on by baneful and vicious habits. Great numbers have been already cured by this noble remedy. Prompted by a desire to benefit the afflicted and unfortunate, I will send the recipe for preparing and using this medicine, in a sealed envelope, to any one who needs it, *Free of Charge.*
Please inclose a post-paid envelope, addressed to yourself. Address, JOSEPH T. INMAN, STATION D, BIBLE HOUSE, New-York City.

[Advertisements.]

REMEDIAL INSTITUTE,
SARATOGA SPRINGS, established 1855, by S. S. STRONG, M.D., and S. E. STRONG, M. D.
We are graduates of the New-York Medical University, and give special attention to the DISEASES OF WOMEN, also the Throat, Heart and Lungs, in the treatment of which we have been eminently successful, having made discoveries which are invaluable in the treatment of these diseases. We treat all diseases, but Chronic Affections claim our special attention. In addition to our medical and surgical agencies, we employ Dr. Dio Lewis's system of Gymnastics and all kinds of baths. The distinguished names to which we refer are our evidence for skill and reliability.
E. NOTT, D.D., LL.D., President Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.
M. SIMPSON, D.D., Bishop M. E. Church, Philadelphia, Pa.
Rev. J. M. SHERWOOD, Ed. Presbyterian Quarterly Review, New-York City.
J. M. RAY, State Bank, Indianapolis, Ind.
Hon. J. M. MARVIN, M. C., Saratoga Springs, N. Y.
For valuable knowledge of disease and full information of the institution send for a circular.

A THING OF BEAUTY is a JOY FOREVER. Those who desire brilliancy of complexion, must purify and enrich the blood, which HELMBOLD'S CONCENTRATED EXTRACT SARSAPARILLA invariably does. Recollect it is no patent medicine. Ask for Helmbold's. Take no other.

FARMERS, COUNTRYMEN, AND COUNTRY MERCHANTS, can send their Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Lard, Tallow, Beans, Hops, Flax, Cotton, Flour, Grain, Meal, Green and Dried Fruits, Furs, Skins, Poultry, Game, Provisions, Seeds, Sorghum, Wool, Potash, Tobacco, Oils, and other produce to JOSIAH CARPENTER, Commission Merchant, No. 323 Washington-st., New-York, near Erie Railroad Depot. To be sold at the highest market price. Every shipper to him will receive his valuable Weekly Price Current of the New-York Market free.

TO PURIFY, enrich the Blood, and beautify the complexion, use HELMBOLD'S HIGHLY CONCENTRATED FLUID EXTRACT SARSAPARILLA. One bottle equals in strength one gallon of the Syrup or Decoction.

D. T. WASHBURN, sole manufacturer of CRANDALL'S PATENT SPRING HORSE, Factory No. 130 East Twenty-sixth-st., New-York. Children's Carriages, Gigs, Propellers, Perambulators, Rockers, Sleighs, &c., constantly on hand and made to order.

A CLEAR, SMOOTH SKIN and beautiful complexion follow the use of HELMBOLD'S CONCENTRATED FLUID EXTRACT SARSAPARILLA. It removes black spots, pimples and all eruptions of the skin. Not a few of the worst disorders that afflict mankind arise from corruptions of the blood. HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA is a remedy of the utmost value.

If you must take medicines then take AYER'S, which are by far the most effectual remedies to be had anywhere.

WHY INJURE the COMPLEXION by powders and washes which choke or fill up the pores of the skin, and in a short time leave it harsh and dry? It is in the blood, and if you want smooth and soft skin use HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA. It gives a brilliancy to the complexion.

THE TRUE CAPE COD CRANBERRY for Spring Planting, for Upland and Garden Culture, and for Swampy. Under my method of cultivation the yield last season on upland was over 400 bushels per acre. Explicit directions for cultivation, with prices of plants, with Nursery and Seed Catalogue complete, will be sent to any address. AGENTS WANTED. Seeds prepaid by mail. B. M. WATSON, Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass.

FRESH SEEDS OF ALL KINDS,
By mail, prepaid; also the
NEW STRAWBERRIES, GRAPES, CURRANTS, &c.
Priced Descriptive List will be sent to any address.
B. M. WATSON, Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—March 1.

U. S. 6s,1881,cou.	Canton Co.	Erie.
5,000 .... 110½	100 .... 37½	1,200 ...... 73½
U.S. 6s 5-20 cou.	200 .... 37½	500 .... 73½
30,000 111	100 37	200 ....s30 73½
20,000.n.is.. 110½	Central Coal.	300 .... 73½
U.S. 5s 10-40 Cp.	200 55	Hudson River.
3,000 ...... 102½	300 56	400 .... 114½
25,000 ..... 102½	200 58	500 115
U.S. 6s, 1 yr.cer.	Cumb. Coal pf.	Reading.
30,000 ...... 98½	1,000 ...... 73½	1,200 ...... 114½
Missouri 6s.	200 74	900 .... 114½
15,000 66	400 ....s60. 70	Mich. Central.
O. & Miss. Cert.	American Coal.	100 .... 112½
20,000 ...... 30½	600 78	Mich. So.& N.I.
50,000 ...... 30½	Quicksilver.	50 67
35,000 30	200 83	500 .... 66½
20,000..s30. 29½	Mariposa.	Illinois Central.
N. Y. Central 6s.	200 .... 15½	100 ....s10. 118½
2,000 102	400 .... 15½	Clev. & Pitts.
[illegible]		
1st mtge.	100 .... 15½	600 .... 78½
3,000 100	Wyo. Val. Coal.	400 .... 78½
Chi.&N.W.Int.	100 .... 59½	200 78
1,000 90	Frontenac Lead.	Clev.,Col.&Cin.
P.Ft.W.&C.3d.	100 .... 60½	5 150
4,000 ...... 88½	100 .... 60½	Chi. & Rock I.
10,000 88	100....b30. 60½	300 .... 96½
Mil. & St. Paul,	Pacific Mail.	200 ....s10. 96½
1st mtge.	34 320	600 .... 96½
4,000 80	N. Y. Central.	Ocean Bank.
American Gold.	200 .... 114½	10 90
5,000 ...... 200½	100....b10. 114½	Pitts.F.W.&Ch.
25,000 ..... 200½	700 .... 114½	200 ....b30. 95½
2,000..s60. 197	600 114	100 .... 95½
Metropolitan B'k	100 ....s30. 113½	700 .... 95½
50 129	500 114	100 ....s10. 95½
Shoe&Leath.Bk	Con. Natl. Bank.	200 95
16 110	75 105	Chi. & N. W.
Del.,Lack.& W.	Chic.&N.W.prf.	200 34
10 199	200 .... 63½	200 ....s10. 34
	100 .... 63½	

SECOND BOARD.

U.S. 6s 1881 cou.	Mariposa Mining	Michigan Central
5,000 ...... 110½	300 .... 15½	100 112
U. S. 6s5-20 cou.	N. Y. Central.	Illinois Central.
45,000 ..... 110½	200 114	200 .... 118½
20,000.n.is. 110	100 ....s30. 113½	100 ....s10. 118
U.S.5s 10-40 cou.	100 .... 113½	200 ....s15. 118
35,000 ..... 102½	800 .... 113½	Cleve.& Pitts'gh
50,000 ..... 102½	29 113	200 77
Treas. N. 7 3-10,	Erie.	200 .... 77½
2,000A&O.114	100 .... 72½	100 ....b30. 77½
Missouri 6s.	600 .... 72½	200 .... 77½
2,000 66	200 .... 72½	Chicago & N.W.
Ohio & Miss.cer.	500 .... 72½	200 .... 33½
25,000 29	200 ....b30. 72½	100 ....b30. 34
5,000 ...... 28½	400 .... 72½	600 .... 33½
1,000 ...... 29½	700 72	200 34
American Gold.	Erie pref.	Chi.&N.W.pref.
1,000 200	50 90	200 .... 63½
10,000 ..... 199½	Hudson River.	500 .... 63½
Canton Co.	200 .... 113½	100 .... 63½
100 .... 36½	200 .... 113½	Chi.& R. Island.
Cumb. Coal pref.	100 ....s30. 113½	200 96
200 .... 72½	200 ....s30. 113½	300 .... 95½
400 72	Reading.	1,000 ...... 95½
1,500 ...... 71½	200 .... 113½	500 .... 95½
200 .... 71½	200 .... 113½	Chi.,Bur.& Q'cy
Quicksilver M'g.	1,500 ...... 113½	26 118
200 82	Mich. So.& N.I.	P.,Ft. W.& Chi.
200 ....s30. 81½	400 66	100 .... 94½
15 80	500 ....s10. 66	50 .... 94½
200 ....s30. 81	100 ....b30. 66½	100 .... 94½
100 .... 81½	300 .... 66½	200 .... 94½

WEDNESDAY, March 1—P. M.

Gold opened at 200½, sold as high as 201, and closed at 199½. Cash gold is abundant, and under a more active inquiry for money is lent with a good deal of freedom. The payment of the 10-40 coupons adds sensibly to the stock upon the street.

Money is more active, and, upon ordinary collaterals, stock houses are ready to pay 7 per cent, and in some cases have not been able to make up their accounts readily. In commercial paper no change. The 7.30s are selling so freely that the Government is accumulating money, and ordinary borrowers do not get supplied so freely.

Conservative people avoid new engagements depending upon money at less than 7 per cent, and the general impression is that Mr. McCulloch will prove a prudent officer, and in all possible ways endeavor to get greenbacks and gold a good deal nearer together. The new Secretary is able to accomplish what neither Mr. Chase or Mr. Fessenden dared attempt. The Rebellion has reached a point where the Government feels master of the financial position, and can commence to absorb the plain legal tender upon which much of the existing inflation of gold and commodities is based. Contraction by the Government in that direction will soon affect the money market, and trouble borrowers and speculators in all departments.

Exchange is dull, and quotations quite nominal: Bankers' Sterling, 60 days, 108@108½; Bankers' Sterling, three days, 109@109½; Merchants' Sterling, 106½@107½; Francs, 5.20@5.25.

Freights are very dull. The engagements to Liverpool are 200 tuns Logwood and Fustic at 7s. 6d. @8s.; 100 tuns Copper Ore and 50 tuns Rails, Car Wheels on private terms; and per steamer 400 bales Cotton at ½d.@3s. 8d., and 390 boxes Bacon at 20s. To Marseilles, 50 hhds. Tallow at 3½ francs.

The subscriptions received at the Ninth National Bank this day, for the 7.30 loan, amounted to $1,350,000.

The following will show the exports (exclusive of specie) from New-York to foreign ports for the week ending Feb. 27, and since the beginning of the year:

	1863.	1864.	1865.
For the week	$4,111,160	$3,590,290	$2,910,574
Prev. reported	28,074,636	23,173,348	37,367,039
Since Jan. 1	$32,185,796	$26,763,638	$40,287,606

COMMERCE OF NEW-YORK FROM JULY 1, 1864, TO DATE.

	1862-3.	1863-4.	1864-5.
Imports mdse	$116,915,277	$125,121,581	$96,115,781
Exports produce	128,973,423	104,343,359	165,452,998
Exports specie	40,050,908	37,223,271	26,183,853

The following table shows the present cost of railway materials and wages, and the prices in 1860:

	1860.	1864.	Advance.
Rails, per ton	$46 00	$135 00	$90 00
Locomotive tire	12 00	40 00	28 00
Car wheels cost	14 50	30 00	15 50
Lumber, "fenc," M	7 50	20 00	12 50
Engineers, per day	1 75	3 25	1 50
Conductors, per month	42 25	76 25	34 00
Laborers, per day	77½	1 75	98
Carpenters, per day	1 34	2 21	87

The next balance sheets made by leading roads will show less nett income than stock holders anticipate from the large gross earnings and the gains upon the traffic of the past two years.

SEVEN-THIRTIES.
NEW-YORK, Feb. 8, 1865.
PAY THE BEST INTEREST AND ARE FREE FROM TAXATION.
Orders may be sent to the NINTH NATIONAL BANK, No. 363 Broadway, Special Agent for JAY COOKE, Subscription Agent. Capital, $1,000,000, which guarantees that the Notes will be delivered by Express, *free.* Notes are $50, $100, $500 and $1000.
J. U. ORVIS, President.
JOHN T. HILL, Cashier.

A Paying Investment.

The Petroleum fever is still raging, and can hardly be said to have reached its culmination. The earned dividends of many of the companies are so enormous and regular that people do not hesitate to buy, both for investment and speculation. While Pennsylvania is rich in oil, and the lands bought at fabulous prices are yielding good dividends, the recent discovery of Petroleum in California, in larger quantities than in any other part of the world, is attracting the attention of far-seeing shrewd capitalists. The reports of Prof. Silliman upon the outcrop of oil on the Ojai Ranch, at Santa Barbara, California, and the other natural resources of this tract of land are truly wonderful. A strip of land, running back from 8 to 20 miles from the coast, and with a gradual descending grade to the ocean, renders the location very accessible, and relieves the company, which is now making preparations to gather the oil from an immense cost for transportation. With the outlay of one to two thousand dollars, pipes can be laid the entire distance from the coast to the oil-lands; the only expenditure then necessary will be the lighterage to vessels. So trifling are their expenses, that it has been estimated that the oil can be shipped from Santa Barbara to New-York and sold in competition with Pennsylvania oil, yielding a good profit to the company. The demand, however, for this article on the Pacific coast and Australia will be very large, and will absorb all the oil that can be produced for the first six months.

It is estimated that the product of the oil regions of Pennsylvania during the past year has not been less than $25,000,000. This result has been reached after four years of exploring, boring, overcoming the difficulties of transportation, and the introducing it into the market for the various uses to which it is now applied. With all these advantages gained, California now steps in as our rival; and, as in everything else in which she is interested, she will be entitled to us.

We called the attention of our readers to the California Petroleum Company in our last issue, and indorsed it as probably the best opportunity for paying investments ever offered to the public in this class of securities. We now reiterate what we then wrote. The gentlemen who have this property are men who never would allow their names to be connected with any company which they did not believe to be all that it represents. [illegible] his brother-in-law, who has just returned from California, having visited the property, and who has been engaged in the Petroleum trade since its start, we should not be surprised if this property, in the course of a few years, was equal in value to the whole Oil Creek lands now yielding oil.

[New-York Independent.

RACINE CITY BONDS.
All persons holding RACINE CITY BONDS will please inform the undersigned immediately of the amount and number of Bonds they hold or represent, also their address, as the city is now making an effort to adjust its indebtedness, many holders having already accepted the terms proposed.
Please address J. W. HART, Commissioner of the City of Racine, Wisconsin.

Grain, Provisions, and other Markets.

WEDNESDAY, March 1, 1865.

ASHES—The market is dull and unsettled; sales at $11@$11 25 for Pots, and $12 for Pearls.

BEESWAX—Yellow Western is dull, and prices are heavy at 63@65c. cash.

COTTON—The demand continues very fair, principally for spinning, and we note sales to-day of some 700 bales. Middlings at the close are quoted at 83@84c.

COFFEE—The market is not very active, but prices are extremely firm in view of the recent call of the Government, which is equal to about 18,000 bags; we note a sale to-day of 550 bags Costa Rica on private terms, and a few small lots of other descriptions. The gold prices of Rio are 21½c. for Prime, 20½@21c. for Good, 19½@20c. for Fair; 18@18½c. for Ordinary, and 19@20c. for Fair to Good cargoes, which, in currency, would be about double at the present rate of gold.

COAL—The inquiry has been less active for Domestic; the return of mild weather and the current high prices check business; prices from yard are the same, viz: $11 @$14 per ton of 2,000 lb.; Foreign is still quite scarce and in fair demand; sales of 167 tuns Glace Bay at $15, and 200 tuns New Castle Gas within a few days at $16.

CANDLES are only in moderate demand, but prices are without change; sales at 30@35c. for Adamantine, 45c. for Sperm, and 55c. for Patent.

COPPER—American Ingot has been only moderately active; prices have been very irregular and unsettled, but at the close there is a firmer feeling; sales of Lake and Baltimore at 43@44½c. New Sheathing and Yellow Metal are in fair demand, and steady at 65@50c.

DRUGS AND DYES—The leading articles under this heading have been very dull since our last; prices, however, are without essential change.

DYEWOODS—There has been only a moderate inquiry since our last; prices, however, are without essential change. At the close there is some inquiry for export, and a firmer feeling prevails.

FLOUR AND MEAL—The market for Western and State Flour is less active, and under more liberal arrivals and mild weather holders are disposed to sell; prices of the low and medium grades are 5@10c. per bbl. lower; Trade and Family brands are dull and prices are heavy; the sales are 6,600 bbls. at $9 75@$10 for Superfine State; $10 05@$10 25 for Extra do.; $10 30@10 50 for Fancy do.; $10 15@$10 40 for the low grades of Western Extra; $10 90@$11 15 for Shipping Ohio; $11 25@$12 for Trade and Family brands; and $11 40 @$14 75 for St. Louis Extras. Canadian Flour is in better supply and prices are lower; the demand is light for Common brands; sales of 200 bbls at $10 10@$10 40 for the low grades of Extra, and $10 50@$12 for Trade and Family do. Southern Flour is more active but prices are lower; sales of 1,720 bbls. at $10 75@$11 85 for mixed to good Superfine Country Baltimore, &c., and $12@$14 75 for Trade and Family brands. Rye Flour is in fair demand and steady; sales of 200 bbls. at $8@$8 75. Corn Meal is dull and heavy at $7 40@$7 50 for Jersey, and $8 50 for Brandywine.

FISH—Dry Cod continues in very good demand, and the market rules very firm; sales at $9 50@$10 25 for St. George's and Grand Bank. Mackerel are also in better demand, and full previous prices were realized; we quote No. 1 Mass. at $23 50@$24, No. 2 do. at $16 75 @$17, and No. 3 do. at $13 50@$13 75. The market for Pickled and Smoked Herrings is quiet, but prices are firm.

FRUIT—There is not much activity in this market at the moment, but holders of all kinds are extremely firm, and no concessions are offered; we hear of a few retail sales to-day, but not enough to report; we quote at $6 20@$6 30 for Layer Raisins, $6 10@$6 15 for Bunch do., 17@17½c. for Old Currants, 18½@18½c. for New do., 35@37c. for Citron, 36@37½c. for quarter-box Sardines, and 55@56c. for half-box do.

GRAIN—The Wheat market is very dull and lower; prices in the absence of sales of moment are nominal; the offerings are larger, and millers are disposed to sell, and to do so would have to submit to a decline of fully 2c.@3c. per bush.; the sales are 850 bush. White Long Island, on private terms. Barley is quiet but firm; sales of 500 bush. Eastern at $2 08. Barley Malt is firm but quiet at $2 20@$2 30. Oats are firm and fairly active; the supply is increasing; the sales are 66,000 bush. Western at $1 15, and Jersey at $1 09½@$1 10 on the pier, and $1 13 delivered. Rye is firm but quiet. Corn is easier and the market closes dull and heavy; the sales are 20,500 bush. Western mixed at $1 89 in store; Yellow at $1 90, and Jersey Yellow at $1 75.

GUNNY BAGS have been in moderate request, and prices have been firm; sales at 39@40c. cash, and 20c. [illegible]

GUNNY CLOTHS—The market is quiet here, but in Boston there has been more doing, the inquiry being entirely speculative; sales at 23@25c.; closing firm at [illegible]

HEMP has been only moderately active, but prices are without essential change; we quote Manila at 16c., [illegible]

STOCK ON HAND FEB. 1.

[illegible]

HIDES—[illegible]

HOPS—There still continues a good steady demand from consumers, and under light receipts and only a moderate stock, prices are firm and well sustained; [illegible]

HAY—The demand is good for the trade and the supply fair; [illegible]

IRON—[illegible]

INDIGO—The market is extremely dull, and we have no important sales to advise; prices are nominally unchanged.

LEATHER—There has been more activity in the market for Hemlock Sole, and prices (especially the better qualities) have advanced, closing firm. [illegible]

LEAD—The demand for Pig is only moderate, but prices are without change; [illegible]

LIME—Rockland is dull at $1 50 for Common.

LUMBER—Eastern Spruce and Pine have been in moderate demand and full previous prices were obtained.

MOLASSES—The demand is moderate, and confined chiefly to small retail parcels, as wanted by the trade. [illegible]

STOCK MARCH 1, 1865.

	Hhds.	Bbls.
Cuba Muscovado	3,086	—
Cuba Clayed	3,442	—
New-Orleans	—	320
Porto Rico	248	—
English Island	33	—

NAVAL STORES—[illegible]

OILS—There has been less activity in the market for City Linseed since our last, but we have no special change to note in prices, closing dull at $1 58@$1 60. [illegible]

OIL CAKE—[illegible]

PROVISIONS—There has been a very good demand for Pork since our last, and prices have advanced; [illegible]

STOCK OF PORK AND BEEF IN PACKING-YARDS, NEW-YORK AND BROOKLYN, MARCH 1, 1865.

OLD AND NEW PORK.

[illegible]

OLD AND NEW BEEF.

[illegible]

PETROLEUM—The market for Crude has been very dull and irregular; [illegible]

[illegible]

RICE—The market is extremely quiet, and prices [illegible]

SUGARS—The demand for Raw Sugars has been moderate, and the market continues depressed. [illegible]

SALT—[illegible]

SKINS—[illegible]

SPICES—No business beyond the actual wants of consumers is doing in this market, [illegible]

SPELTER is quiet, but prices are without change. [illegible]

STEARINE—[illegible]

SALTPETRE—The market is quiet but steady at 20c. for Crude and 23c. for Refined; Nitrate Soda is quoted at 9c.

SEEDS—The market is without much change for Clover Seed; [illegible]

TEA—There is some inquiry for Colong, but not to any extent. Other descriptions sell moderately in a retail way. Prices generally are firm.

TOBACCO—There is very little doing in Kentucky Leaf, [illegible]

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF STOCKS OF SPANISH TOBACCO.

[illegible]

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF THE NEW-YORK AND BROOKLYN TOBACCO INSPECTION WAREHOUSES.

[illegible]

TIN—The market for Pig has been very dull and irregular. [illegible]

TALLOW—The market is without connection, the demand mainly for the home trade; [illegible]

WOOL—There has been only a moderate inquiry for Domestic Fleeces since our last, [illegible]

WHISKY—The market is better but not active; [illegible]

WHALEBONE—Very little of importance has been done since this day week; [illegible]

N. Y. Wholesale Prices of Country Produce.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, March 1, 1865.

[Expressly for THE N. Y. TRIBUNE by our own Reporter.]

The following are the current rates of articles in good condition, as sold by commission houses at wholesale. Shippers receive 5 to 10 ℔ cent less, deducted for commissions, beside freight and other charges.

BEANS AND PEAS.

Receipts of beans are free, about 1,000 bushels per day, and the feeling is weaker. We quote:

[illegible]

BUTTER.

Butter is falling rapidly from even the comparatively low rates of last week. [illegible]

CHEESE.

Cheese is firm at quotations. [illegible]

EGGS.

Receipts are free, but the demand is also good, as it always is during Lent. [illegible]

FRUITS—DRIED.

[illegible]

FRUITS AND BERRIES.

[illegible]

LARD AND TALLOW.

[illegible]

MEATS.

[illegible]

POULTRY AND GAME.

[illegible]

HIDES, SKINS AND FURS.

[illegible]

VEGETABLES.

[illegible]

SUNDRIES.

[illegible]

Boston Live Stock Market.

BRIGHTON, CAMBRIDGE AND MEDFORD.

Reported for THE TRIBUNE, for the week ending Wednesday, March 1, 1865.

[illegible]

A Hymn of Praise.

At a meeting of rejoicing at the passage of the Constitutional Amendment Act, held at Newburyport a few evenings since, and addressed by Mr. Lloyd Garrison, the following hymn, by John G. Whittier, was sung:

Not unto us who did but seek
The word that burned within to speak;
Not unto us this day belong
The triumph and exultant song.

Upon us fell in early youth
The burden of unwelcome truth,
And left us, weak and frail, and few,
The censor's painful work to do.

Thenceforth our life a fight became,
The air we breathed was hot with blame;
For not with gauged and softened tone
We made the bondsman's cause our own.

We bore, as freedom's hope forlorn,
The private hate, the public scorn;
Yet held through all the paths we trod
Our faith in man and trust in God.

We prayed and hoped; but still with awe,
The coming of the sword we saw;
We heard the nearing steps of doom,
And saw the shade of things to come.

We hoped for peace: our eyes survey
The blood-red dawn of Freedom's day;
We prayed for love to loose the chain;
'Tis shorn by battle-axe in twain.

Nor skill nor strength nor zeal of ours
Has mined and heaved the hostile towers;
Not by our hands is turned the key
That sets the sighing captives free.

A redder sea than Egypt's wave
Is piled and parted for the slave;
A darker cloud moves on in light,
A fiercer fire is guide by night!

The praise O Lord! be Thine alone,
In Thy own way Thy work be done!
Our poor gifts at Thy feet we cast,
To whom be glory first and last.

INTERESTING TO FARMERS.

American Institute Farmers' Club.

TUESDAY, Feb. 14.—A good attendance of men and women, citizens and strangers, were present, and a large batch of letters were presented by Solon Robinson from outside members in various parts of the country. Our report is necessarily so brief, that it lacks much of the interest except to those who were present.

Distribution of Flower Seeds.—The Secretary, J. W. Chambers, reports that since the first notice that Mr. Prince had sent in some flower seeds for gratuitous distribution to any lady who would send a paid envelope, addressed to herself, he has received about three thousand letters—five hundred of them during the last week, and he has returned many and will others as soon as possible, until the supply of seeds is exhausted. Several persons have sent seeds for others, with their application, thus creating a pleasant exchange. Mr. Prince has also sent a few more of the following sorts:

Laburnum, or Golden Chain, a beautiful flowering tree.

Hibiscus Syriacus, Rose of Sharon, a flowering shrub.

Bignonia flava, Golden Trumpet Flower, a climbing shrub.

Perennial Aster.

Bignonia Princei, a new seedling, alluded to in our last report.

Mr. BULL moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Prince, but Mr. Bartlett thought the thanks were much more due to Solon Robinson, for giving the proposition such wide notice in THE TRIBUNE, for that is what has brought this host of letters.

SOLON ROBINSON did not want any thanks, nor did he want to vote any to Mr. Prince, but he did want gentlemen to take notice that advertising in THE WEEKLY and SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE is the way to reach a good many people. He would simply read a couple of the letters addressed to him, instead of the Secretary, asking for seeds. The first is from Mrs. O. P. Gates, Morrisville, Vt. She says:

"I am a widow; my only son is in the army, and my only daughter died a little more than a year ago, leaving me quite alone.

"I have a few house plants, and if you will please send me a few flower seeds, that I can cultivate in my yard another Summer, it will cause many a lonely hour to pass pleasantly.

"I have taken THE TRIBUNE several years, and am much interested in the Farmers' department."

The next is from Mary Cordelia Atkens, Jefferson, Ashtabula Co., O., written neatly, and you shall say whether it does not touch a cord deep down in your heart. Mary says:

"I am a little girl, nine years old. I love flowers very much; but Pa has been in the army nearly four years, so we cannot have many flowers. Ma says if you will send me a few flower seeds, that she will let me have a bed in the garden, and when she hires a man to make the garden, she will get him to help me with my flowers. I would like a white lily very much, if you can send me a root. My little brother and I each send five cents to pay postage."

MARY JANE DEAN, Poltney, New-York, asking for some of the flower seeds, says: "If you will please send me some of what you have, or such as you may hereafter get, they will be thankfully received, and I will try and cultivate them to the best of my ability, and will ever hold you and the kind donor in grateful remembrance."

Mr. DODGE moved to have the whole of the letters referred to a Committee of five, for the purpose of discovering other fragrant flowers, like those which Mr. Robinson has just presented.

THOMAS CAVANACH of Brooklyn, took the address of the little girl, and as soon as the weather will permit, will forward her the white lily root she desires. May its beauty add to hers, and make her ever more happy and good.

Sweetbrier Seeds.—One of our lady correspondents "wants to know how to grow the seeds of sweetbrier, in which she has not been successful." Mr. Cavanach replies: The buds must be gathered as soon as ripe, and the seed washed and placed in moist sand and frozen until the next Spring, and then it will grow without difficulty.

Habits of the Chinch Bug.—B. E. FLETHERTY, North Prairie, Knox Co., Ill., gives the following reason why the plan of sowing Spring wheat upon unplowed cornstubbles tends to prevent the ravages of that terrible pest of wheat-growers in Illinois, the chinch bug. The bugs that lay eggs in the Spring do not deposit them until after the wheat is up. Then they work their way deeply down in loose ground and fasten their eggs upon all the fibrous roots. He says: "Last Spring I carefully extracted some wheat that was in some very loose ground, and it was astonishing beyond anything I ever saw of the kind; the little roots were literally loaded with eggs. Where this took place the ground was broken in the Spring, and the wheat was not worth cutting. That which was harrowed in when the ground was thawed about two inches deep yielded me about 20 bushels per acre. These little pests can't work in the hard ground to deposit their eggs on the roots; so there are no young bugs. Now let every farmer make all the inquiry he can and see if this theory does not hold good. One thing should be remembered: the bugs do not choose to lay their eggs in wet ground. D. R. Emerson of Dane Co., Wis., says the bugs generally commence on some small dryish patches, because there the ground is more loose and generally deeper than other places, and they can penetrate to the roots to lay their eggs."

Corn Worms.—James V. Thompson, Richland County, Ohio, says: "I discovered last Summer on James River, Va., that nearly all the corn, when in the milk, was infected with worms, feeding upon the succulent kernels at the end of the cob. These worms in size, color, and general appearance, were much like the cut-worm; and so far as I could see, every ear in the field was attacked by this enemy. Can the Club give the readers of THE TRIBUNE the benefit of their remarks on this subject?"

This worm is from the angoumois moth; it has long been a pest of Southern corn-growers. It is not much known at the North. The early corn grown for market in New-Jersey is infected to some extent. We have frequently seen ears upon which one quarter of the grains were destroyed. It is not a very inviting thing to a delicate appetite to find the first bite of a roasting-ear has been taken by one of these worms.

THEODORE HOLT, who has spent several years among the freedmen on the islands of South Carolina, said that he took several bushels of corn from here, thinking to grow a better variety. He does not think an ear of it ever ripened. It was all destroyed by the worms mentioned in this letter. They generally commence at the end of a row, and eat through to the other end of the cob. He says the worm is more like that known here as the spindle worm than it is like the cut-worm. The only remedy that he has found is to use varieties that grow very thick husks well closed over the point of the ear. He thinks no northern variety of corn will answer at the South.

More About Rabbits—Greasing Trees.—"Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" Those who must, not we. Look at the two following statements: JAMES WHITE, Padua, McLean Co., Ill., says that greasing trees with lard or other oily substances, as recommended by some writers to prevent rabbits gnawing them, is, according to his experience, an effectual remedy.

DANIEL CURTIS, Farmington Jefferson Co., Wis., says that greasing trees is sure death to the trees, not the rabbits. He says: "I have known a whole orchard of valuable trees, just coming into bearing, almost totally killed by greasing with hog's lard," and he therefore feels it to be his duty to caution farmers against applying any sort of greasy stuff to trees. Instead of grease, he uses fresh cow dung, and finds it effectual. Make a paint of it, mixed with water or milk, and put on with a brush. It also keeps cattle, sheep and deer from eating trees. The ends of limbs liable to be eaten may be dipped in the mixture in the early part of Winter, and it will not wash off till Spring. Mr. Curtis thinks it a safe, cheap and effectual safeguard to all trees liable to be eaten by any animal.

B. W. STEERE, Adrian, Mich., says: "There is no protection for nurserymen against rabbits, except fencing out or killing them. The only sure way is poisoning them. To do this, slice Talman-sweet, or other rich, sweet apple, one-third of an inch thick, dust on a very little strychnine, spread with a knife, and hang on the lower twigs, 6 to 12 inches up, where the tracks are thickest, and all you have to do in the morning is to pick up both rabbits and poison. If any cunning ones escape to their burrows, track them out, put a piece of poisoned apple well into the hole, stop it up, and you feel that at least one good job is done. For orchards, three pieces of siding can be tacked together, leaving one angle loose, which can be sprung open to place it around the tree."

A Protecting Hedge.—JAS. WHITE, Padua, Illinois, says that he has made an excellent protection to his orchard, garden, and farm buildings against the sweeping winds of the prairie, by planting a hedge of cotton-wood trees. He simply plowed a furrow and laid down the limbs and covered them with another furrow. Every buds sprouted and grew, and now he has a thick, compact hedge 30 feet high.

Varieties of Apples for a Farm.—Mr. STEERE thinks a dozen varieties of apples quite insufficient. He says: "We must have our early May tree as well as the harvest, as it *will* ripen first. Then for immediate succession, Astrachan, Summer rose, or perhaps better yet, the beautiful early Strawberry. A little later comes the indispensable Early Joe and Primate, with Sweet Bough or June, for sweet—six for Summer, and if it would not shock you too much, should like to insert a graft here and there of half a dozen more to help along when peaches fall. We begin the Autumn with that most delicious apple, the Dyer, with Oldenburgs to cook, which 'will stew in just three minutes.' Late Strawberry, Gravenstein and Porter, with Jersey or some other good sweet, cannot well be omitted, closing up with Fameuse or Fall Pippin—seven for Fall. And what for Winter? Talman Sweet in large quantity for baking, with Bellflowers, Belmonts, Baldwins, Spitzenburgs, Jonathans, Rhode Island Greenings, King, Northern Spy, Red Canada, Golden and Roxbury Russets, and Willow-twig to cook, &c., after all others are gone, thirteen—twenty-six in all. And who that is posted, will not think of some favorite he would wish added? Indeed it would be easy to double the number with good sorts. Will those who favor a list of twelve, please make out one, and have it published in THE TRIBUNE?"

Sour Plants—How to Get Rid of Them.—C. G. BROWN, Abnepee, Lenawa Co., Wis., propounds the following question to the Club: "What is the best method of ridding the soil of sour-grass, vinegar-plant or sorrel, as it is called by these names. There are many farmers troubled with it, and a great many ways and plans have been tried?" Have you tried dressing the land with caustic lime, at the rate of thirty bushels of the powdered lime, freshly slaked, to the acre, spread upon the surface with wheat seed, and harrowed in at the same time? Have you tried wood ashes, a pint upon each hill of corn or potatoes? Have you tried deep fall plowing, so as to turn up some of the strong clay of the subsoil, and letting that pulverize in Winter, and then seeding it to timothy and clover in the Spring? Afterward, top-dress the grass every Autumn with manure free from sorrel seed, or dress it with lime, ashes or finely powdered clay—the debris of an old brick-yard is good—and if some of these remedies won't cure your land, you may as well emigrate.

A Mistake in the Germ.—DANIEL CURTIS, Farmington, Wis., gives a detailed account of a sprout that he found growing out of the dead body of a grub, which he appears to believe had produced this vegetable growth. He is undoubtedly mistaken, notwithstanding he could not find any seed. Similar mistakes are often made. The pest of flax growers, called dodder, appears to have sprouted out of the flax stalk, where it is impossible that a seed could have been concealed, and it has often seemed a mystery to those who have examined it. Investigation shows that the seed is in the earth; that it grows a fine fiber, which inserts itself into the flax, and then the fiber dies, while the plant, in its natural form, grows and draws its sustenance from the flax. The growth of a plant out of the body of the grub is no more mysterious than the growth of the flax parasite.

White Willow.—E. L. G. writes from Westbrook (what State and why is he ashamed of his name?), as follows: "There has been a man in this town this Winter selling the willow to be delivered in March. I am not as yet a purchaser, but probably will be when he arrives with the same, provided, in the meantime, I shall be satisfied, by the sayings of the Club with reference to it, that it would be advisable to buy."

The Club has not one word of advice to give. Some of its members would as soon throw money in the fire as invest it in willow-cuttings for the purpose of growing a hedge fence. For such a hedge as that just spoken of by Mr. White, grown from cuttings of the cotton-wood tree, we believe the white willow equally good. We also believe it a good tree to grow on the prairie for fuel. We believe there has been a deal of humbug and cheating by sellers, and a careless waste of money by buyers of willow-cuttings. If E. L. G. had read all the reports of the Club he would not have needed to write the above letter, as the whole willow question has been pretty well ventilated.

Grafting Grapevines.—S. R. DIVEN, Woburn, Mass., writes some inquiries about grafting, to which we append brief answers, as numbered. He says: "Does the gentleman in Pennsylvania, who has been so successful in grafting with Delaware vines by layering, take them up again and put them on a trellis or stakes? (1) Is the grapevine what botanists would call an endigenous plant? (2) As it seems to carry its life more through the heart of its structure than between the bark and wood it would seem in grafting that the cions should be set more for the purpose of having the pores of the different woods meet than to intersect the spaces between or under the barks. (3.) This would be effected by splice or saddle-grafting, or an incision might be made with a thin knife in a cleft, instead of splitting. Has any one had experience in this method of grafting the vine?" (4)

1. Yes. The object was to set the valuable cions in a vine of little value, to grow new plants.

2. No. Yet it is rather more so than some hard-wood trees.

3. This is correct.

4. Yes, that is the right way to graft vines, when the size is suitable, but the cions grow very well if made like a wedge and set in a split in a layer, or in the end of a vine, covered with earth.

Squirrels as Friends of the Farmer.—Mr. DUVEN also writes: "I wonder if farmers are aware that the little striped squirrel makes food of the chrysalis from the caterpillar's cocoon? I have seen him at it several times within the last two years, and also learned that he was a meat-eater, for food or medicine. Walking over an elevated portion of a road one day last Summer, I heard a rustling in the grass and shrubbery in the ravine beside me, and forth came the squirrel with a little brown snake eight or ten inches long, and perched himself on a flat stone in a wall near by, and I watched until the snake was consumed."

Sorgo, Its Cultivation, and Manufacture. It will make Sugar.—S. L. DENNEY, Christiana, Lancaster County, Pa., claims that he has made a valuable improvement in sugar cane mills, by which the feeding is easily regulated. D. PETTIT, Salem, N. J., writes of his experience in sorgo-culture, as follows:

"In your discussions of Dec. 13, Prof. Mapes says: 'There is no doubt that sugar can be made from sorgo; that Jos. S. Lovering of Philadelphia, several years ago fully demonstrated the fact. He published a pamphlet detailing the whole process.' And adds: 'The trouble generally with farmers is, they do not conduct the process with sufficient rapidity. The exposure of the sirup to the atmosphere to a great extent destroys the power of crystallization. All the manipulations of the sirup lessen that power. The more it is stirred the less sugar it will produce, &c. Now I apprehend the principle aim of your discussions is to elicit and publish the truth. The Prof. says: 'Let it be the duty of this Club to send out light upon the subject.' My object in now writing is to elicit the truth, and with all due deference to the opinions of the Professor, I will offer a few *facts* in my experience, which '*are stubborn things*' where they come in contact with preconceived opinions. I received one of the first packages of Sorgo seed sent out from the Patent Office, planted them, and before the seed were fully ripe, had some juice pressed out and placed in a small vessel which was placed in a vessel of boiling water to evaporate. Consequently it was a long time in evaporating, for it never boiled and we did not get rid of the green matter; and yet, that sirup on exposure to the air formed crystals—grained fully as well as any I ever had. In using Cook's evaporator much of the juice and sirup remains on the pan only while passing from one end of the pan to the other—constantly moving. I used a No. 7 pan 15 feet long. The process cannot be performed in less time. If the current being thin on the pan is stopped running while boiling rapidly, it will burn. The running motion is therefore the great secret of rapid evaporation. We have run off 15 gallons of good sirup within an hour, and evaporated, at the same time, 90 gallons of juice, with one pan and only one fire. When making sirup, in the Fall of 1863, the drippings on the outside of the vessels used soon became thick with sugar; which shows that exposure to the air is not detrimental to crystallization. I placed ten gallons in an open vessel in a warm room to crystallize, and not till after several weeks did the crystals show but slightly, and then those formed first were in the scum on the surface—but frequent stirring and mixing with the sirup seemed to accelerate the graining until it became a mass—called mush. But I have not seen any sirup made last Fall, no matter how rapidly, that has shown any signs of graining. I have a letter by me from Wm. Morris Davis of Philadelphia, the late able member of Congress from that city, a practical sugar refiner (who performed the experiments attributed to Jos. S. Lovering), giving me directions for converting sorgo juice into sugar through its various manipulations. He does not object to exposing the sirup to the atmosphere, nor to stirring it. The process is too complicated—requires too much science to be practically carried out by farmers. If not too expensive, to be profitable in the end. First neutralizing the acid with an alkali, then clarifying with blood or whites of eggs, or passing through a bag filter. Then removing the gum which retards crystallization by the addition of an alkali at a high temperature, then test again to know if all the gum is removed until the white scum ceases to rise, &c."

Iron as a Fertilizer.—D. PETTIT, Salem, N. J., gives his views upon this question in the following letter:

"In your discussions of Jan. 17, sulphate of iron—copperas—a poison is introduced from an exchange as a wonderful fertilizer, but is not recommended by your Club; but it is there confounded with oxide of iron, which is not a poison but is a fertilizer. Permit me to offer you a few examples in support of these assertions as regards vegetation. There was a ditch cut many years ago, ten feet wide by six feet deep, along the shore of a piece of meadow which bounds this County on the north-east. This was done to cut off the springs. The earth excavated was composed in part of a large portion of green sand marl, strongly impregnated with sulphate of iron. The ditch-bank was spread on the meadow side. From that time until I accompanied Prof. George H. Cook to see it (who was making a geological survey of the marl district), and which was about eighteen years, there had not a spear of any kind of vegetation grown on it. An acre of a field to be planted with corn was covered with a part of the material. That so covered remained nearly as bare as the traveled road the season out, while on the remainder of the field the corn was good. I have tried oxide of iron—scales from the blacksmith-shop—on grape vines with good success, as well as on garden vegetables. According to the analysis of my marl, the best vein contains 25 per cent oxide of iron, which, with the practical applications I have made, prove that oxide of iron is not detrimental to vegetation."

Dr. SYLVESTER, Lyons, Wayne Co., N. Y. I do not find sulphate of iron poisonous to plants when used in small quantity. I find it profitable to buy copperas at two cents a pound to use in the compost heap. It is one of the best and cheapest deodorizers.

Mr. QUINN thought plaster cheaper and better; it produces the same result.

Mr. CAVANACH said he obtained from the blacksmith's shop a load of stuff composed principally of the sweepings which he mixed in a compost heap, and the result was injury or death to nearly all the plants to which it was applied.

Where Shall I Buy Land? SOLON ROBINSON.—This is the anxious inquiry of many letter writers. This Club is not an advertising machine, although it is often sought to be made so by those having hobbies to sell. We aim to give information. We have letters of inquiry from Missouri, Maryland, Delaware and New-Jersey. Here is a letter from Rensselaer, Jasper Co., Ind., the writer of which wants us to tell everybody who wants to buy land to come there and not go to Vineland, N. J., where the land is only fit to scour plowshares. Another letter is from a resident of Vineland, who, having been offered a high price for his farm, has been West to see the wonderfully rich and cheap land that the Indianian speaks of, and has returned satisfied to continue to scour his plowshare in Jersey sands. "My farm consists of 60 acres of cleared land; it was originally in a wild, uncultivated state, which I have cleared myself. My average crops are 50 bushels of shelled corn to the acre without the use of manure on the crop, but I have raised 75 bushels per acre; of wheat from 15 to 20 bushels per acre; white potatoes from 100 to 200 bushels; sweet potatoes from 200 to 300 bushels. The amount of produce sold from my place year before last amounted to $2,000, and last year to $2,300. My land is very friable and is worked with one horse. My hired help costs me about $150 a year. The profits on my place after paying for my living and all necessary expenses, is about $1,000 a year. This will show what a man can do in this soil, climate and market. What inducements then have I to leave here for the West? And if I can do what I have stated is not this a pretty good place for poor men to settle?"

Another person, in answer to the question: "What can you grow at Vineland, and can a poor man start there and make a living," says: "I purchased thirty acres of land, all of which was covered with a dense growth of small timber and underbrush. The first season I made a small clearing of about four acres; on one portion of my clearing, measuring 159 rods, I planted the peach-blow potato. The potato failed to germinate in some of the hills, and I replanted in some with carrots and others with kohl-rabi. In the Fall I harvested 180 bushels of fine merchantable potatoes, 6 bushels of carrots and 12 bushels of kohl-rabi. I have also succeeded to my satisfaction with sweet potatoes and other vegetables. Grapevines flourish beautifully. Pears, peaches, currants, strawberries, all flourish. I raised 50 bushels of corn per acre as a first crop." I think these brief extracts are sufficient to show that "poor men," who are willing to work, would not starve at Vineland.

Pruning Blackberries.—Dr. WARD of Newark said: "The best way I have ever found for training the Lawton blackberries is to plant them in rows four feet apart, and three feet between plants, and then stretch a wire between posts at each end of the row, supporting the wire if necessary between, so as to keep it about four feet high. In Autumn I cut out all the old stalks that have just done bearing; then I tie the new shoots in a bow over the wire. I prune the side shoots to spurs about six inches long. This brings nearly all the fruit in clusters along the wire, and the rows are so clear of straggling vines, that ladies can walk between them and gather the fruit. I think this method of training also improves the fruit, it certainly increases the quantity. It also occupies the surface sufficiently and yet leaves room to pass between the rows with a wheelbarrow to carry manure, which blackberry vines need in bountiful quantity to produce plenty of fruit. No matter how long your vines may be, when trained in this way they are tied down to the wire, so that the top of the bow is not out of reach."

Dr. TRIMBLE—My blackberries in the garden stand in a row along a board fence, and I have drawn a wire along in front of it, over which I train the vines in a manner recommended by Dr. Ward. It is certainly the best way of training them for garden culture that I have ever seen.

A. A. POWELL, Brooklyn, said that there was a practical difficulty in growing this variety of blackberries in some parts of the country on account of the severe cold in Winter. He has seen this difficulty entirely obviated by pruning closely, and then digging the earth upon one side of the roots so as to lay the canes down and cover them slightly with earth.

P. QUINN, Newark, said: Three years ago, I had a stool of this variety of blackberries, with five canes 8 feet long. I cut the side shoots to one foot in length, and I picked that season 27 quarts of berries.

Pruning Pear Trees.—Mr. QUINN gave a discourse upon pruning pear trees, illustrated by figures upon the blackboard, instructive to those present, but impossible to report. He showed how the trees should be treated, from the bud, year by year, to produce a fine pyramidal tree. One of the great benefits of this form is that it induces fruit spurs to start near the ground, and close to the main stem of the tree. The reason why trees have been heretofore pruned with bare stems is to carry the tops high up in the air so as to allow room to plow and cultivate the ground. He does not believe that anything is gained in the long run by growing other crops in a pear orchard. The owner should rely solely upon the fruit as a remunerative crop. It is useless to plant a pear orchard until the ground is thoroughly pulverized 18 to 20 inches deep, made rich with manure and dry by draining, if necessary. It is better to devote three years to the preparation of the soil than to plant in one that is poor and not properly prepared. He would set dwarfs 8x10 feet, and standard 12x15 feet apart. He would never think of growing pears of any kind in sod ground. He thought it a great advantage to mulch ground. It prevents weeds from growing, and preserves fruit that is blown from the trees.

JOHN G. BERGEN, Long Island—I cannot speak for other places, but I am satisfied that dwarf pears are not as popular as formerly on the Island. I know they won't succeed in grass land. My trees are not dwarf, because I planted them below the junction, and roots have grown from the pear and made standards. There are some standard pear trees upon the Island 200 years old, and it never would have answered to plant these only 12 or 15 feet apart. I like the pyramidal form of pruning for the garden, but in a field that is to be cultivated trees must be pruned higher.

Mr. DODGE inquired the object of dwarfing trees, if the pear was afterward allowed to strike root to make a standard.

Mr. QUINN answered: The object is to make them bear fruit sooner. A tree, after once having formed its fruit spurs, always retains them if they are not broken off by accident or carelessness in picking the fruit.

Dr. WARD thinks the present cost of labor too great to think of growing pears as an exclusive crop. We must combine some other with it, and plant the trees far enough apart to work between them with a team.

American Institute Reports.—Mr. CHAMBERS distributed to-day to the members of the Institute the annual volume of 660 pages, which comprises the Report of the Farmers' Club and Polytechnic Institute from May, 1863, to May, 1864.

Talk about Fruit.

At the meeting, February 9, the question was asked, "Is it advisable to renew gooseberry and currant bushes every three years?" THOMAS CAVANACH said that he had had charge of some currant bushes for ten years that were sixteen years old, and they bore just as well as young plants. The new growth is annually cut back to a few buds. For city yards he trains blackberries high. Dr. WARD trains blackberries over a wire four feet high. Blackberries, raspberries and currants need manure. He uses blood and animal offal.

Dr. SYLVESTER planted the Lawton Blackberry when it first came out, and they are as vigorous as ever—uses muck composted with stable manure, two or three loads of muck to one of manure, and puts it on thick.

He is successful in grafting grape vines—prefers early in the Spring, setting grafts below the surface. Some sorts succeed well grafted in the root.

GEORGE D. POWELL set eighteen Delaware grafts in as many Clinton roots last Fall, digging down six inches, returning the earth after grafting, then covering with a tin vessel, over which he put two feet of straw and six inches earth over that. Of course he cannot yet tell the result.

Mr. CAVANACH said this was Fuller's plan, which had proved very successful with him (Fuller), an Iona graft growing fifteen feet the first season.

MASON C. WELD read a letter from a German who tried Fuller's plan, performing the operation in March, and got a combined growth of thirty-five feet on the Concord and sixty-two feet on a Maxatawny graft the first season, measuring the three shoots.

Dr. WARD asks why not use wax in grafting the grape below ground, the same as on the apple above ground?

Dr. SYLVESTER—If no wax is used in exposed branches, sap would exude and turn sour, besides evaporation would dry out both stock and graft, eventually. In the ground there was no evaporation, and if waxed to stop the flow of sap, the cion was liable to be forced out by the pressure. Prefers tying the stock to hold the graft.

T. HOLT—In grafting the grape, or anything else that is difficult, make the wedge of the cion with a shoulder, having a bud just below it. Make the outer edge of the wedge the thickest, then pare off a little of that edge to relieve the pressure on the bark.

Dr. WARD has had grafted the grape with varied success. Had good results with pieces of wild or other grape-roots, 10 to 12 inches long, cleft grafted with Delawares, the root supplying sap until the cion rooted as a cutting. Uses no coating, but usually ties the graft in and presses the earth around it when set out; grafts at any time, from the last of February to the middle of May. The grafts are easily pushed out of place before uniting with the stock. To prevent this he covers the tops with old leaves, so that the ground will not bake, and ties each graft to a short stake when a few inches high. About Cincinnati, and generally at the West, they prefer training to stakes, rather than upon trellises, using a single stake to a vine, and tying it in a bow-shape to equalize the growth.

Dr. SYLVESTER thinks too many of our grape ideas are imported. Foreign grapes were extensively planted by the late Mr. Longworth, who spent $50,000 in importing grapes and grape-dressers, but had to fall back upon our native sorts. Nearly all the natives are rampant growers, and he does not believe they can be kept in a healthy condition when cut back so severely as they have to be when tied to stakes. He believes that the extensive ravages of rot and mildew at the West are partly attributable to the concentrated state of the sap caused by such severe whittling—it runs over into disease. The Romans planted elm trees for grape-vine trellises, the Europeans use short stakes; we want a mean.

To the question, whether the Doolittle Black Cap Raspberry as grown at the East was different from the ordinary black cap, G. D. Powell, of Columbia County, said his Doolittle berries growing in a hedge among grape-vines, are three times the size of the common black cap berries. Mr. Williams thinks the Doolittle an improved variety of the common black cap.

Dr. SYLVESTER remarked one advantage at least in planting the Doolittle, viz., that we got all bearing plants, whereas in the wild sorts some were male or fruitless.

Mr. CAVANACH likes the Belle de Fontenoy raspberry, which yields two crops per season. The only trouble is to keep it within bounds, it is so inclined to spread; allows his to grow up in a mass, only keeping them out of the borders.

Mr. CAVANACH and Dr. WARD said they had both seen gardens injured by repeated heavy dressings of horse manure, rendering the ground too light and dry, burning up in the sun. The remedy is to double trench, bringing up the bottom soil. Cow manure is not as injurious in this respect as horse manure.

The discussions of the Fruit Growers at their weekly meeting, Thursday, Feb. 16, were confined to strawberries. Few new facts were elicited, most of the talk being a repetition of what has often been said and published, so we condense the lengthy discussion into a small compass.

Tribune Strawberries.—The Chairman, Mr. CAVANACH, has grown them for two or three years, and has large beds of each sort. *Col. Ellsworth* is a very large, but somewhat dry fruit—18 of them weighed a pound—rather inclined to grow hollow, as is the case with nearly all large berries. *Brooklyn Scarlet* is a very handsome, showy fruit, of fine flavor, though not as productive as the others in fruit, but enormously productive in runners. The *Monitor* is a good berry, but does not bear like Col. Ellsworth. With him, Col. Ellsworth and Russell's Prolific are the largest of from 80 to 100 varieties he has growing.

Mr. CARPENTER thinks highly of THE TRIBUNE berries, which he has fruited for three years. The Monitor especially, gave a fine show of fruit last season; in size, flavor and productiveness it ranks high. Brooklyn Scarlet is a beautiful berry, of fine quality but not of largest size,—fears Col. Ellsworth has too much foreign blood, as it inclines to burn in the sun. Fruit very large, and plants productive. *The Agriculturist* strawberry came in for a share of praise by Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Mead, and some others. According to the accounts it should be put a full head and shoulders ahead of all its compeers. The coming season will, however, give it a better opportunity to establish claims in ordinary cultivation.

Mr. CAVANACH thinks Boyden's Mammoth, Union and Trollope's Victoria, one and the same berry—could detect no difference in them on his grounds—does not admire the flavor; but fine appearance and late ripening render it valuable. Bartlett and Boston Pine are also identical with him; thinks very highly of Russell's, which, beside being very large, is equal to Wilson's in productiveness.

Dr. SYLVESTER indorsed Russell's for flavor, size and productiveness, beside being a healthy sort; has seen 250 berries on a single stool; he thinks it a pure pistilate, though claimed to be hermaphrodite. Next to Russell's, is the Wilson's, and would also recommend Burr's New Pine as the best flavored berry. When pure and properly fertilized he gets a bushel of this variety per rod. He believes that the greatest yield is from pure pistilates, fertilized by pure staminates, about one of the latter to ten of the former.

Dr. WARD thinks the books and instructions general. He thinks pistilate plants with some staminates set among or alongside of them, and there the instruction ends. Now, it is absolutely necessary to fertility that the two varieties are adapted to each other in time of flowering, else there will be no fructification. This he thinks is not sufficiently understood.

To demonstrate positively that a fertilizer is necessary, Dr. Sylvester planted a bed of pure pistillate berries 100 rods from any male plants, and only got a quart of imperfect berries where he should have had three bushels. Speaking of foreign sorts, the Dr. thought they should be put under glass the same as foreign grapes—they burn up in our hot sun. Buffalo and Russell, he thinks, are distinct berries, though some regard them as identical.

Mr. CAVANACH sees no difference between White Alpine, Pineapple and Lenning's White—thinks Deptford White distinct, but unproductive.

Mr. CARPENTER finds Deptford White very productive and hardy, one of the best foreign sorts; sees but little difference between Pineapple and Lenning's White. In planting he would not discard the Wilson, and would also recommend the Russell and Downer's Prolific, also Austin for amateurs, but not for distant marketing, being rather soft—has constantly dissuaded from planting Triomphe de Gand, which he believes will disappoint those who try it. Downer's Prolific is very early and wonderfully productive; with him La Constante will do for amateurs, but don't bear enough for market—it is a beautiful berry. The Agriculturist has the habit of bearing all the season. There was no time from the regular bearing period till frost when he could not pick fruit from this sort.

Mr. CAVANACH has kept a bed of Wilson's in good bearing condition six years, by clipping runners and throwing the earth and rotted manure from his hot bed on top of the plants each season, thus gradually raising the bed.

Vermont Sheep.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: I have read with considerable interest an article in THE TRIBUNE on Vermont Sheep, written by J. B. Grinnel, M. C. from Iowa. This article pays a very handsome but deserved tribute to the meritorious flocks of Vermont. When history makes up an impartial record of Vermont sheep-breeders, a galaxy of bright names, who have labored with patient toil and liberal expenditure to achieve the great improvement in this department of production, will commemorate our State. The early fathers of improvement in this direction are now held in veneration among us, and are worthy of lasting gratitude. The labors of Consul Jarvis are not perhaps sufficiently appreciated. The senior Rich also performed a work that has contributed in untold measure to the prosperity of our State. The memory of these men should be perpetuated by memorials suitable to their character and labors.

The prices of sheep enumerated in Mr. Grinnel's article, are quite common in Vermont, and have been for several years, with the exception of some few extreme cases. The improvement in Spanish Merino Sheep in Vermont is not the result of a few years' labors, but of many years; neither is it the result of one man's labor, patience and skill; but many patient, skillful and responsible men have been for a long time engaged in this work.

The means employed to achieve this improvement are worthy of study. On this point, Mr. Grinnel gives currency to a most dangerous principle, while assuming to make a statement of facts. He says: "Mr. Hammond is a law unto himself. In defiance of what has been called good breeding, he pays no regard to consanguinity, but breeds in and in." This is a sweeping assertion, and demands attention. The phrase "in and in" is indefinite, and should be defined. One Western man informed the writer of this article that he had a very valuable Merino ram, that he should use on the lambs of this ram, and claimed it to be an example of breeding that was practiced in Vermont. He was asked for his authority, when he plainly asserted that "Mr. Hammond bred in and in;" and this was *his* construction of breeding "in and in."

Some breeders use the phrase "in and in" as opposed to coupling animals of different *breeds*, which is called *crossing*. Uniting *sub*-breeds is called *intercrossing*. Coupling animals of the *same* breed is never called *crossing*—according to the usage of writers—but *selection*. Spanish Merino sheep are classed as a breed of sheep. Any pure blood ram of this breed can be used on any flock, without incurring the imputation of *crossing*, i. e., of crossing *breeds*. This definition must be remembered. In keeping with this usage, Darwin says: "The offspring from the first cross between two pure breeds is tolerably and sometimes (as I have found with pigeons) extremely uniform, and everything seems simple enough; but when these mongrels are crossed one with another for several generations, hardly two of them will be alike, and then the extreme difficulty, or rather utter hopelessness, of the task becomes apparent. Certainly, a breed intermediate between *two very distinct* breeds could not be got without extreme care and long continued selection; nor can I find a single case on record of a permanent race having been thus formed." On the Origin of Species, p. 25.

It is, therefore, a well settled principle, that *crossing*, in scientific phrase, is not according to what is called "good breeding." Now Mr. Grinnel brings forward Mr. Hammond as "a law unto himself," who, "in defiance of what has been called good breeding, pays no regard to consanguinity, but breeds in and in." "In and in" breeding, when not carried to so close a relationship as to enfeeble the progeny, is only the opposite crossing, but by no means justifies the assertion that any one man practicing it is "a law unto himself," when the basis of this mode of breeding was formed many years ago. Having exploded the idea of *crosses*, Darwin says, p. 37:

"At the present time, eminent breeders try, by methodical selection, with a distinct object in view, to make a new strain or sub-breed, superior to anything existing in the country. * * * Thus, a man who intends keeping pointers naturally tries to get as good dogs as he can, and afterwards breeds from his own best dogs." P. 38: "By a similar process of selection, and by careful training, the whole body of English racehorses have come to surpass in fleetness and size the parent Arab stock, so that the latter, by the regulations for the Goodwood Races, are favored in the weights they carry."

In short, then, good breeding condemns the practice of coupling animals of *distinct* breeds, and favors *selection* from the *same* breed. If Mr. Hammond has acted on these principles, then he is not "a law unto himself;" if he has not acted on these principles, he has not bred "in and in," and in any event, he is not a law unto himself. Those that live here in Vermont, and are personally acquainted with him and his style of breeding, know very well that he *has* paid—as every breeder *should* pay—particular "regard to consanguinity," and on his close observance of the laws of good breeding, he has attained to what measure of success he now enjoys.

He has made purchases from various flocks of Spanish merino sheep, and his subsequent breeding developed a progeny sufficiently modified to assure practical men that these successive purchases were the natural antecedents to the effects that followed. These sheep, purchased from diverse flocks, possessed widely different characteristics, and were well adapted to remedy defects in his flock. The course pursued by many other breeders in Addison County has been similar to Mr. Hammond's.

The Messrs. Cutting and Rich of Shoreham, and others in different parts of the country, have illustrated in their breeding Darwin's approved method as well, probably, as any men living. If we substitute the word "sheep" for the word "dogs," in the following sentence in Darwin, it probably illustrates Rich's, Cutting's, and Hammond's method of improving their flocks: "A man who intends keeping pointers (sheep) naturally tries to get as good dogs (sheep) as he can, and afterward breeds from his own best dogs (sheep)."

This view of the matter relieves the whole subject of an air of mystery, and affords encouragement to any enterprising, patient, intelligent man, who will engage in sheep husbandry with a determination to excel, to make selection from our numerous flocks of Spanish merino sheep, with the not unreasonable expectation that he may equal if not excel the most prominent breeders in our country. ZEBULON JONES.

Cornwall, Vt., Feb. 20, 1865.

The Lotus-Planter.

A LESSON FOR THE TIMES.

BY THEODORE TILTON.

A BRAHMIN on a locust-pod
Once wrote the holy name of God.

Then, planting it, he asked in prayer
For some new fruit, unknown and fair.

A slave near by, who bore a load,
Fell fainting on the dusty road.

The Brahmin, pitying, straightway ran
And lifted up the fallen man.

The deed scarce done, he stood aghast
At touching one beneath his caste.

"Behold," he cried, "I stand unclean;
My hands have clasped the vile and mean!"

The Lord beheld his troubled face
And wrought a miracle of grace:

The buried seed arose from death,
And bloomed and fruited at His breath.

The stalk held up a leaf of green,
Whereon these mystic words were seen:

"FIRST, COUNT MEN ALL OF EQUAL CASTE—
THEN COUNT THYSELF THE LEAST AND LAST."

The Brahmin, with bewildered brain,
Beheld the will of God writ plain.

Transfigured then in sudden light,
The slave stood sacred in his sight!

Thereafter in the Brahmin's breast
Abode God's peace, and he was blest.

Horticultural.

Though a severe snow storm raged out of doors, there was a respectable gathering on Tuesday evening, Feb. 7, to hear John Henderson lecture on "Winter Flowers," before the Horticultural Association of the American Institute.

The study of botany, said Mr. H., heightens the pleasure of flower culture. A knowledge of botanical names, which are alike in all countries, is quite essential. Yet, without such knowledge one may love flowers, and the poor as well as rich may adorn their dwellings in Winter as well as Summer. The difficulty in raising-house plants is a too dry and too hot atmosphere. If, as in Europe, nearly every house had its conservatory or plant room attached, we might have a profusion of bloom in Winter. It costs but little more to build a house with this attachment, and the wonder is that so few comparatively are found, even among the wealthy. By means of hot air, or steam-pipes, the temperature is kept at 65 to 70 deg., and with proper ventilation and water sprinkled upon the floor occasionally to keep a humid atmosphere, many plants thrive quite as well as out of doors in the Summer season.

Among the plants suited to such a room the Monthly Carnation is one of the best, flowering from October till March. It is readily propagated by inserting slips in a pot of sand and giving them bottom heat, watering occasionally. They are also made to root in the open ground in warm weather. They may be put in saucers of moistened sand, together with Verbenas and Fuschias, and set in a window, where they will often throw out roots in a fortnight.

Camellia Japonica is one of the finest plants for house culture, and every way desirable, both for its brilliant flowers and the rich glossy evergreen leaves, producing a fine effect in boquets. It is of easy culture and will bear neglect better than most plants.

Next to the Camellia is that queen of flowers, the Rose, of which there are several classes of all colors, from green to orange and red, embracing the Tea, Noisette, June, and Remontant, bush and climbing, with the lovely Moss rose. Many of them succeed well in pots and flower profusely, especially when the roots nearly fill the pot of earth.

The Calla, or Ethiopian Lily, is one of the few lilies, the Lily of the Valley excepted, which bears forcing well. This flourishes finely when kept well watered.

There are few varieties of the Bouvardia, a free growing and beautiful flowering plant. It is particularly valuable for cut flowers in Winter, as the more they are removed the more profuse is the bloom. The flowers, too, may be kept fresh for two weeks after cutting, by keeping the stems in water, in a cool room, a valuable property in a Winter flower.

Chinese Primrose is most profuse in its flowering during the entire Winter, blooming the more from frequent cutting.

No collection is complete without the Heliotrope or Cherry-pie plant, which is almost constantly in flower, as well as the following:

The Violet, which is associated with our very infancy; Azalia Indica, a most profuse flowering shrub; the graceful Fuchsia, which all admire; Poincetta Pulcherrima, with its gorgeous colored leaves or bracts; the Euphorbia Family, furnishing the Tapioca of commerce; the Caoutchouc or India-Rubber, and the Castor Bean; the rapid-growing and fragrant Acacia; the Eucatorium, so useful in decorating rooms, blossoming from September till April; Begonias in great variety, with graceful foliage, some of them continuing in flower the greater part of the year; the Orange, whose blossoms give out such a delightful fragrance; Mignonette, Hyacinths, which succeed either in pots or glasses of water, giving a fragrant bloom from September to December, as they are successfully brought into light and heat; Narcissus, Tulips, and the Foliage or Variegated-leaved plants, some of which are very beautiful, were in turn treated of, with some directions for their management. Parlor or Wardian cases were also alluded to, where the Mosses, Cacti, Ferns and Orchids thrive, even when shut up without water for a fortnight.

Upon the conclusion of his remarks, the Chairman spoke of the great pleasure he derived from a Waltonian Case, where, with very little trouble, having a zinc tank beneath the case connected with a kettle of hot water, he can at any time strike cuttings, and always have something green growing, no matter how cold the atmosphere without.

A letter was read from Mrs. MANGAM, who sent a branch of a silver tree from the Cape of Good Hope, remarking that in all her travels and visits to the Kew and other gardens she had never before met with it. The leaves were of a white, silver color, thick, veined, and covered with down. The tree grows sixteen feet high, and in that land of no frosts is a coniferous evergreen, and is spoken of as forming a magnificent appearance as it waves in the wind. Some of the winged seeds were also sent, and distributed for trial among those having plant-houses.

Agricultural Items.

SMOKING HAMS.—"I have no smoke house," exclaims Mr. Smith, "how shall I smoke my hams?" His neighbor Jones answered him, "O, that's easy enough. I put some strings through the head of a barrel, and tie them fast to three or four hams, then dig a little hole in the ground, in which I make a smudge of sawdust, over which I set the barrel, and keep the fire going pretty snug and they smoke enough in three or four days."

The above is an overheard railroad conversation. With due deference to Mr. Jones, we reply publicly to his private remark, that he knows no more about making good hams than the pig which produced them. I would as soon sit down to a piece of smoked sole-leather as his barrel-cured hams.

In the first place, hams should be placed so far from the fire that the smoke will be absolutely cool before it reaches them. Then they should be hung in a room open to the atmosphere, not tight like a barrel, and they should not be smoked rapidly as they would be in the barrel, until nearly black on the outside. A moderate smoke made twice every clear day, and twice as many days as a ham weighs pounds, will make good, sweet smoked meat. Never commence smoking until your hams have hung long enough after taking out of the pickle to be thoroughly dried. The English dry their hams and use them without smoking. They are far preferable that way to hams smoked as those recommended above, in a barrel or any similar contrivance. Many persons have spare rooms about their buildings, sometimes in the garret of a dwelling, in which hams can be smoked, by making a fire out-doors, or in a stove, and conducting the smoke through a long pipe. We have seen a very nice smoke-house where the fire was built 50 or 60 feet from the building, in a little oven dug in the ground, the smoke being conducted through a covered trench up a hill-side to the base of a building, and then through a wooden pipe, to the garret where the meat was hung upon the rafters. During the smoking operation a window was kept open in each end of the room. Remember, as a rule, the slower you smoke the meat the better. The best wood is green hickory, then maple, beech, ash, apple tree. Never use locust; the bark imparts an unpleasant flavor to the meat. Several other kinds of wood do the same. Corn-cobs make very sweet bacon. Never use any wood that makes a black smoke. Never use rotten wood, nor saw-dust. The last day of smoking it is a good plan to burn a few red pepper pods. As to curing hams "doctors disagree." I believe I have made as good hams as ever were eaten by using 6 lbs. salt and 4 oz. saltpeter to 100 lbs. pork, putting the salt dry upon the meat as soon as possible after it was dressed. We have also made excellent hams in a pickle made as follows:

Weigh the hams or shoulders and take 8 per cent of the weight—that is, 8 lbs. per cwt.—of rock salt, and put it in a kettle of water and heat it, and skim off all the scum that will rise. Then add 1 quart of molasses, 2 lbs. of white sugar, ½ lb. of saleratus, ¼ lb. saltpeter, 1 or 2 oz. allspice for 100 lbs. of meat. Boil all together and skim again, and let it cool, and pour it over the meat, adding water enough to cover it.

To those who prefer sugar-cured hams we offer the following recipe:

To cure a ham of fifteen pounds weight requires one pound of good brown sugar, two ounces refined and ground saltpeter, half a pound ground sea-salt. First application—saltpeter, and cover the face of the ham with sugar a quarter of an inch thick; on the fifth day rub the skin side with sugar. Second application—saltpeter and a mixture of three parts sugar and one part salt; on the seventh day rub as before. Third application—half sugar and half salt; in seven days rub as before. Fourth application—same as last; in seven days rub with half sugar and salt; clean the flesh-side of the ham. Fifth application—very good molasses (not sorgo) as long as the meat will absorb it. Saturate the ham with sugar as you would in preserving fruit; the salt is only to flavor it, for hams intended for boiling, and which require more salt, you may use salt according to your judgment and give more time. The ham is now cured, and for purposes of boiling it will be found delicious.

The writer of the above says:

One word more about the special advantages of curing with sugar; fat cured with salt is repulsive to weak stomachs, consequently a large portion is trimmed off hams intended for the American market that in England is always retained, for two reasons—economy and preserving the juices. Stomachs that reject fat when salted, find it palatable and delicious when cured with sugar.

CASHMERE GOATS.—Why should American farmers raise Cashmere goats? What possible advantage would the owner of a flock of goats have over the owner of a flock of sheep? Would he expect to produce the article out of which Cashmere shawls are manufactured? They are not made of the goat's fleece. The Cashmere shawl of commerce is from *the fur of the infant kid*, each animal furnishing an ounce or two, and dying under the process of denudation. This fur is a mouse color, and retains colors richer and more beautiful than any known substance. Such a fleece would cost an American farmer more than a fleece of Merino wool. Could he ever expect it to sell for as much? The fleece of the goat is hair and only hair, without the felting quality of wool. It is very pretty to look at and has been used to some extent in ornamentation of ladies' dresses, but we have never heard of any success in its manufacture. It is true that Dr. Sims, who succeeded to Dr. Davis's flock, got enough of it carded and spun by hand to make himself a pair of pantaloons, which he was in the practice of exhibiting at the Fairs where he showed the goats. The cloth was not handsome, it may be durable; nor do we believe the goats will ever be profitable stock on account of their fleece. They may be on account of their meat.

J. R. Straughan, Fort Wayne, Ind., says:

Kid meat is equal to the best venison, if killed at eight or ten months old. The common goat at ten months dresses about 50 pounds, and the Cashmere, 100 pounds. The Cashmere is a beautiful animal, and an ornament to any man's grounds, *and is not breachy*. A farmer can have a flock of 15 to 30 without any trouble or appreciable cost of "keep." The farmer in Summer gets no fresh meat except from his poultry, from circumstances well known to farmers, and therefore not necessary here to mention.

From his beautiful little flock of goats he can kill eight to sixteen kids each Summer, making, say 80 pounds each of better meat than he ever tasted of before. This practice, in vogue all over the cotton country, ought to be adopted by our farmers at once; we have every species of pasturage and fodder, cheaper and more abundant than they ever had. In this view I am a Cashmere man, but in counting upon its "clip" I wish none to be disappointed.

CONNECTICUT RIVER TOBACCO.—It is reported that the town of Hadley, Mass., raised 530 tuns of tobacco last year, and 40 or 50 tuns of the weed have been sold there within a few days. A man in Easthampton raised 4,400 pounds on two acres of land last year, and sold it for 28 cents throughout. It is estimated that the tobacco crop of Easthampton is worth $40,000 to that town.

THE LOCUSTS.—The *Cicada Septemdecem* or seventeen-year locusts are expected this year in Monroe County, N. Y. This animal does no great harm to vegetation during its short life above ground. The locusts of the Bible are the same that have been so destructive, under the name of grasshoppers, in California.

ISAAC FUNK, the greatest land owner and cattle raiser in the United States, died lately at his home in McLean County, Ill., where he had a snug little farm of thirty thousand acres. He was an ardent hater of the Rebellion, and we regret that he could not have lived to see it finally crushed.

MARKING SHEEP with coal tar, using the end of a broken corn-cob for a stamp, is recommended as cheap and durable. Mark rams, ewes and wethers upon different parts of the body, one dot for young sheep, two for middle-aged, three for old ones.

AN ONION CROP.—George W. Woodwell, Newburyport, is reported as growing over 2,000 bushels of onions last year upon his place of six acres. Some portion was at the rate of 600 bushels per acre, and they sold at $1 75@$2 per bushel.

THE DRY GOODS MARKET.

NEW-YORK, Tuesday, Feb. 28, 1865.

The Dry Goods Market is, on the whole, decidedly steadier and more active than last week. The heavy reduction in prices, on some leading articles, made about ten days ago, has brought values nearer to the views of buyers, and there is consequently an improvement in transactions. Some of the larger dealers have a strong opinion that prices are destined to come down further, as the result of increased arrivals of cotton from the interior of the South; and this still produces a certain degree of caution; but as a rule, the present range of prices is considered to afford a safe basis for supplying immediate wants. The great sale of last week at Boston has produced little or no effect upon prices here. Very few of the goods sold there came to this city; and, indeed, the operation was little more than an exchange of goods between the Boston merchants; for although about $3,000,000 of goods were sold there, about $2,250,000 of that amount was bought by Boston dealers.

Brown sheetings have been very sparingly dealt in, and prices are lower without leading to business of moment. We quote 4-4 standard sheetings at 53½@54c., but no large lots could be bought or sold at these figures.

Bleached shirtings are rather more in demand, at a concession of 1@2½c.

Stripes, ticks, and denims are dull, and prices 1½@4c. lower.

Cottonades are quiet and weak in prices. Notwithstanding the light stock in the market, prices for these goods (like all other cottons) have given way, and we have to report a further decline of 5c. per yard, without leading to much activity for home consumption.

Brown drills are dull. Pepperills have yielded 54c.

Canton flannels are 1@2½c. lower, but the concession has not induced enlarged sales.

Printing cloths are quiet; a fair price for 64x64 is 19½@20c.

The print trade continues very irregular. The reduction of all the leading makes to 25c. last week, by the jobbers, has embarrassed the printers, and prices are in a very unsettled condition at first hands. Merrimack W are now quoted 32c.; Dunnell, 26c., and Richmond 25c., net. The following are the quotations among the jobbers: Merrimack, 27½@30c.; Cocheco, 30c.; Providence, 25@27c.; Pacific, 25@27c.; Sprague's frocks, 25c.; Sprague's purples, 25c.; Sprague's solids, 25c.; Sprague's fancies, 25c.; Sprague's blue, 25@26½c.; Richmond's, 25c.; American, 25c.; Dunnell, 25c.; Saunders, 26½c.; Allen's, 24c.; Manchester, 25c.; Amoskeag, 22@23c.; National Mills, 22c.; Arnold's, 21@22½c.; Lowell, 21@22c.; Dutchess, B, 20@21c.; Windham, 19c.; Lawrence, 26c.; London Mourning (Sprague's), 25c.; Atlantic Mourning, 25c.; York Mourning, 23c.; Amoskeag Mourning, 23c.

Mous. Delaines have been reduced in price; we quote Pacific, 42c.; Hamilton, 32c.; Manchester, 33c. The jobbers are selling at 32½c.

The trade in woolens is dull and unsatisfactory. Buyers are waiting for a reduction in prices, which holders are not at present willing to concede. It would appear, however, that there must ere long be a yielding of 10@15 per cent; at present, quotations are about the same as a week ago. There is a surplus of medium fancy cassimeres, which makes such goods especially heavy. Army kerseys are quoted $1 50 for standard. Army flannels are held at $1, but with light sales, buyers being unwilling to pay that price.

The trade in foreign goods continues very light and unsatisfactory. Importers do not find the demand sufficient to induce them to take goods out of bond, and they are, as much as possible, taking the precaution of selling from sample. A few goods have been offered at auction, but the result has not been very satisfactory to the sellers. At present the prospect appears to be that notwithstanding the lightness of the importations, the importers will have to bring their goods to the auction room, for buyers to a large extent refuse to buy.

The receipts at this port, for last week, were $1,009,691, against $1,976,009 for the same period of last year. The following figures show the comparative imports of Dry Goods at New-York for the two months from January 1:

ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Manfs. of wool	$3,317,146	$6,526,350	$1,444,534
Manfs. of cotton	1,132,380	1,940,274	520,412
Manfs. of silk	1,594,027	3,684,254	571,016
Manfs. of flax	1,424,140	1,785,028	951,902
Mis. dry goods	510,349	848,618	[illegible]
Total ent. for con.	$7,978,022	$14,784,584	$3,799,462

WITHDRAWN FROM WAREHOUSE.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Manfs. of wool	$596,160	$1,239,066	$1,000,917
Manfs. of cotton	361,637	644,631	604,220
Manfs. of silk	399,309	798,450	462,089
Manfs. of flax	303,132	639,139	824,581
Mis. dry goods	82,768	111,691	184,038
Total withd'wn from warehouse	$1,743,006	$3,433,027	$3,075,845
Add ent. for cons'n.	7,978,022	14,784,584	3,799,462
Total thrown on the market	$9,721,028	$18,217,611	$6,875,307

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

QUOTATIONS.—The following reports of sales of sheep and lambs, by several of the sheep-brokers, who sell on commission, will give the average of prices per head this week. They are quoted ⅌ lb., live weight, for Sheep, 11@13½ cents.

There were heavy receipts of sheep Friday and Saturday, which gave the butchers a little chance for option whether to take or leave a lot once in price. The decline was about ½c. ⅌ lb. at which all the stock offered was pretty readily taken. Monday morning opened with only a moderate supply, but salesmen were obliged to make still further concessions, the prices ranging 12@13½ cents, but none but extra good stock at the highest figure. Still, at these rates, which were easier than Saturday, the butchers took all the sheep offered, and cleared the pens in Sixth-st. at an early hour. Tuesday morning McGraw & O'Brien had about 600, and Hume 1,500, and the former reported sales at 12½ cents, as good stock as last week at 14 cents, but the latter thought the decline not quite as much. He was holding a drove of good Illinois sheep of about 94 lbs. average at 13c. ⅌ lb, but butchers were very offish about buying, as large receipts are looked for in future. It is understood that forty car loads are still detained at Buffalo. The pelt buyers are also very easy, and anticipate a decline rather than advance on wool. They say the only inducement to pay present rates, is to keep their hands at work, as they do not care to accumulate stock at the present rates. There seems to us to be a general feeling all round, that prices of sheep must decline, as well as beef cattle. Certainly the butchers are acting upon that principle to-day.

The first Spring lamb we have seen this season was sold by S. Sutton, in Forty-fourth-st., for 20c. per lb., live weight, and being very fine, 56 lbs., he brought $11 20.

LIVE AND DEAD WEIGHT OF SHEEP.

As it is often important to farmers to know what a sheep will dress, we give the following English rule: It is to weigh sheep when fatted, and divide the weight by seven and call it quarters. Thus, a sheep weighing 140 pounds would give 20 pounds a quarter as the dead weight. If the sheep are in good condition, this rule is sufficiently accurate for all purposes. Poor sheep will fall below the mark, and extra fat ones go over it. For Western Sheep, it is only safe to calculate one-half the live weight. The loss upon live weight in shipping is at least 10 per cent.

Robt. H. Hume sold, in Sixth-st., 1,420 Sheep at an average of $12 40 per head.

Wm. D. Bellis sold 2,604 Sheep at $10 62 per head.

McGraw & O'Brien sold 2,609 Sheep at $10 85 each.

Chamberlin reports sales by Kase & McPherson, Judd & Buckingham, A. Van Wert, John Kase, and owners, as follows: 164 Sheep at $22; 140 at $20; 167 at $14; 383 at $13 50; 190 at $13; 275 at $12; 166 at $11 25; 371 at $11; 193 at $9 65; 210 at $9 25; 192 at $9; 201 at $8 75; 180 at $8; 350 at $7 50; 109 at $7.

SHEEP DROVERS AT BROWNING'S.

From New-York—Levi Bein, 94; P. McConnell, 44; S. Black & Co., 178; John Elliott, 200; A. Terry & Co., 182.

From Canada—George Brock, 130.

From Michigan—William Coon, 104; A. Martin, 192; Hossberry & Coon, 171.

From Pennsylvania—Jacob Dawson, 540.

From Ohio—Ramsay & Pidcock, 177; Hossberry & Coon, 361; J. Caskey, 703; Bellis & Pidcock, 348.

SHEEP RECEIVED AT O'BRIEN'S.

From New-York—Lester Van Dusen, 101; George M. Foster, 200; Hugh Carlon, 343; S. Beckwith, 60; J. McCain, 168; L. D. Dodge, 131; Lindley & Co., 161; J. M. Palmer, 170; Hitchcock & Co., 563.

From Michigan—Whiting & Powell, 343.

From Ohio—G. York, 108.

From Canada—A. Gillett, 156.

From Massachusetts—J. E. Wight, 88.

THE SWINE MARKET.

Receipts by Railroads to wit: Hudson River Railroad, 324; Erie Railroad, 458; New-Jersey Central Railroad, 3,104; Camden and Amboy Railroad, 353; Total, 4,239.

Since the date of last report the market has been gradually receding, and the trade opened on Monday this week rather inactive and with a downward tendency. There were only 3 car loads of hogs on sale, and the buyers being disposed not to operate only at a considerable concession and the holders firm in their views; there was little done. The drooping market is the result of a large influx of Western Dressed lots, together with the decline in the fresh demand, owing to the increased supply of beef, and also a decided depression in cut meats.

In the absence of any transactions this morning we give the following as the range of prices:

Best grades would bring 13½ to 14½c.

Ordinary and medium lots would bring from 13½c. to 13¾c.

The arrivals for week amount to	4,239
Corresponding week last year	8,164
Corresponding week preceding year	19,024

Petroleum.

THE SECOND NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY.

NOW ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FIVE OIL FARMS OWNED IN FEE.

and other valuable interests on

OIL CREEK, CHERRY RUN, PIT HOLE CREEK, HICKORY CREEK, &c.,

all selected properties of the great Oil Regions.

CAPITAL STOCK........................$3,000,000.

IN 200,000 SHARES OF $15 EACH.

A limited number of shares will be sold at the subscription price of $7 50.

STOCKHOLDERS POSITIVELY EXEMPT FROM LIABILITY AND ASSESSMENT

OFFICE NO. 100 BROADWAY.

OFFICERS:

President, MAHLON S. FROST.

Vice-President, CORNELIUS WALSH.

Treasurer, JOHN M. BRUCE, jr.

Counsel, BARNEY, BUTLER & PARSONS.

Banking House, FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

TRUSTEES:

MAHLON S. FROST of Brooklyn, N. Y., formerly of Titusville.
CORNELIUS WALSH, President Second National Bank, Newark, N. J.
GEORGE J. HAMILTON, builder, No. 297 Lexington-ave.
JOHN M. BRUCE, jr., merchant, No. 188 Water-st.
JOHN O. WHITEHOUSE, merchant, No. 5 Dey-st.
JAMES GOSPILL, Secretary Hudson County Insurance Co., Jersey City.
C. H. APPLEGATE, merchant, No. 354 Broadway.
JOHN C. COOK, merchant, No. 188 Water-st.
M. M. VAN DYKE, Catharine-slip.
J. L. DOUGLASS, Secretary Merchants' Insurance Company.
J. O. HOYT, merchant, No. 4 Cedar-st.
DANIEL D. MILLER, merchant, No. 190 Water-st.
J. B. BOUTON, No. 160 Broadway.
H. H. DUNCKLEE, merchant, No. 2 Cedar-st.

LANDS OWNED IN FEE—AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVANTAGE.—The Second National Petroleum Company differs from most organizations of a similar character in one important respect—it owns nearly all its lands in fee. It is thus enabled to execute leases—for which numerous applications have already been made—for the right of sinking wells on the usual terms of one-half the oil, at no expense to the Company. Some of the largest incomes on Oil Creek and Cherry Run are those accruing to the proprietors of lands from this description of leases. The Company will also sink wells on select portions of its properties, and will, of course, in those cases, enjoy all the benefits resulting therefrom.

A PERFECT SECURITY FOR INVESTMENT.—So rapid and steady is the increase in the values of Cherry Run, Pithole Creek, and Hickory Creek properties, that they will soon be worth, without a doubt, even double the amount of the capital stock. It will thus be seen that every stockholder, being an owner in fee, has a perfect security for his investment.

EXTENT AND CHARACTER OF THE COMPANY'S PROPERTIES.—The quantity of rich oil lands owned in fee by the Second National Petroleum Company, carefully selected from the most celebrated districts of the Pennsylvania oil region, is believed to be the largest ever put into a single corporation. It amounts to no less than four hundred and fifty-two acres on Oil Creek, Cherry Run, Pithole Creek and Hickory Creek. On some of the lands oil is now produced; on others wells are rapidly going down; and all are known to abound in the

Petroleum.

THE PROSPECTUS OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC PETROLEUM CO., OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC PETROLEUM COMPANY is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New-York, with a capital of $2,500,000, divided into 250,000 shares of the par value of $10 each, the shareholders of which are exempt from all personal liability.

FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WORKING CAPITAL.

The books are now opened for a limited number of subscriptions, at the following offices:

Messrs. LOWBER, OSTROM & Co., No. 105 Front-st.; Messrs. FANCHER & MCCHESNEY, corner Moore and Water-sts.; WM. M. PARKS, esq., No. 19 Broad-st.; WM. A. FOWLER, esq., No. 74 Broadway; Messrs. T. KETCHAM & Co., No. 68 Wall-st., New-York; D. K. DECKER, No. 88 Fulton-st., and GEO. J. HARDY, No. 13 Court-st., Brooklyn; D. B. POWELL, No. 71 Myrtle-ave., Brooklyn; and at the office of the Company, No. 74 Broadway, New-York.

TRUSTEES:

E. J. LOWBER, firm Lowber, Ostrom & Co., No. 105 Front-street.
J. C. DAYTON, firm J. C. Dayton & Co., No. 107 Front-st.
WM. A. FOWLER, No. 74 Broadway.
I. B. WELLINGTON, firm Wellington and Cox, No. 74 Broad-st.
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M. PARKS, No. 19 Broad-st.
EDWARD DODGE, late of Clark, Dodge & Co., No. 51 Wall-st.

OFFICERS:

President—E. J. LOWBER.
Vice-President—J. C. DAYTON.
Treasurer—WM. A. FOWLER.
Secretary—JAMES H. KIDDER.

The property of this Company has been selected by practical judges of Oil interests, and includes territory which is considered the very best in the whole Oil Region, embracing selections on Cherry Run, Pit-hole and Oil Creeks, and Alleghany River.

The producing interests are now yielding over one hundred and eighty barrels per day, principally from new wells, and this alone is sufficient to pay two per cent per month on the entire capital, and with the developments to be made with the unusually large working capital, promises increased dividends at an early day.

FEE SIMPLE INTERESTS.

1. 159 Acres D. Gaines Farm, on Horse Creek, lying nearly a mile on either side of the Creek—an excellent piece of Oil Territory.

2. 20 Acres Stuart's Run, all boring land on each side of the Run, within a mile of the great United States Well, on Pit-hole Creek, McKinley Farm.

3. 85 Acres Graham Farm, on Pit-hole Creek, one mile from the U. S. Co.'s Well—over 50 acres of fine boring land; one of the finest farms on the Creek, and not to be excelled for Oil purposes.

4. 110 Acres Shirk Farm, on Sugar Creek, two miles above Cooperstown, where heavy Oil is found—a fine location, and a very long distance on the Creek.

5. 30 Acres Fry Farm, on Cherry Tree Run—all boring land, and full of Streams—a splendid piece of Oil Territory, one mile from Cherry Tree.

6. 5 Acres McClure Farm, on Cherry Run, lying one-half mile above Plumer, which is very promising for Oil purposes.

7. 200 Acres Tideoute Creek, running one mile on the Creek—100 acres fine boring land.

8. 30 Acres Haworth Farm, on Pit hole Creek—a beautiful site, all boring land, two miles above the great Well, and the property is believed to be fully as valuable as the Smith Farm on Cherry Run.

LEASEHOLD INTERESTS.

9. 7-8 working interest in Lease No. 19, McClamont Farm, Cherry Run, on which there is a well now going down.

10. 3-4 working interest in Lease No. 4, Lamb Farm, Cherry Run—a well now drilling, night and day—a fine location, just above the Humboldt Works.

11. 3-4 working interest in Lease No. 10, Lamb Farm, Cherry Run—a well going down, a good situation below the Humboldt Works.

12. One-quarter working interest in Lease No. 8, Lamb Farm—an excellent lease, with a well now being put down.

13. Lease No. 6, Henry Farm, at Henry's Bend, Alleghany River, for one-half the Oil for fourteen (14) years—adjoining the great Heydrick Well, which has turned out over 54,000 barrels of Oil, and is still pumping over 60 barrels per day. Well to be put down and completed at once on this lease.

14. Lease No. 8, Henry Farm, at Henry's Bend, Alleghany River, for one-half the Oil for fourteen years.

15. Lease No. 9, Henry Farm, at Henry's Bend, Alleghany River, for one-half the Oil for fourteen years.

16. Lease of 15 acres Haworth Farm for twenty-five (25) years, for one-half the Oil, on Pit-hole Creek, lying on both sides of the Creek, and a selection of his Farm of over four hundred (400) acres. Seven (7) Wells to be put down on this property at once, free of all expense to this Company.

17. Lease of 10 Acres, being a selection from 75 acres of the Heydrick Farm, on Muskrat Run, near Pit-hole, for one half the oil. This is a valuable piece of oil territory.

18. Lease No. 2, Heydrick Farm, Pit-hole Run, for one-half the oil, only a few rods from the Great United States Well. Well to be put down free of expense.

19. Lease No. 4, Heydrick Farm, Pit-hole Run, for one-half the oil, same as above. Well to be put down by the Company.

20. Lease No. 5, Heydrick Farm, Pit-hole Run, for one-half the oil. Well to be put down by the Company.

21. Lease No. 1, Prather Farm, ½ working interest, on which there is a well going down.

PRODUCING INTERESTS.

22. ⅝ working interest Grocery well and lease, Smith Farm, Cherry Run. This is a flowing well, and now producing 200 barrels per day. Our interest in this well is........ 90 bbls.

23. ¼ working interest Coquette Well, Egbert Farm, Oil Creek, now flowing 350 barrels per day. Our interest in this well over........ 80 bbls.

24. free interest, Lady Washington Well, and lease, Blood Farm, Oil Creek, now pumping 60 bbls. per day. Our interest in this well........ 10 bbls.

Petroleum.

THE PACIFIC COAST PETROLEUM COMPANY, OF NEW-YORK.

CAPITAL STOCK, $5,000,000, DIVIDED INTO 50,000 SHARES OF THE PAR VALUE OF $100.

WORKING CAPITAL $800,000 IN STOCK, AND $100,000 IN CASH.

HON. JAS. DE PEYSTER OGDEN, President.
HON. JAMES WADSWORTH, Vice-President.
EDWARD S. RICH, Treasurer.
LEWIS BENTON, Secretary.

TRUSTEES:

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Hon. JAMES WADSWORTH, of James Wadsworth & Co., No. 61 Cedar-st., New-York.
GEORGE W. TUTTLE, of Stout & Tuttle, leather dealers, No. 2 Ferry-st., New-York.
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LEWIS BENTON, Counselor at Law, No. 112 Broadway, New-York.
WILLIAM F. HALL, of Northrup, Hall & Co., No. 113 Broadway, New-York.
THOMAS A. SCOTT, Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
R. S. S. ANDROS, of Andros & Cole, Boston, Massachusetts.
Hon. LEVI PARSONS, San Francisco, California.

The subscription price is $20 per share for a limited amount of stock. No further call or assessment to be made on subscribers: $100,000 is reserved for a working capital, and $800,000 in stocks at par, for the future development of the company's property.

Its property consists of a perpetual lease of about 75,000 acres of oil territory in San Luis, Obispo County, State of California, lying on and near the Pacific Ocean, being all the following five ranches, viz:

I. The Manuela Ranch, containing 16,954.63 acres.
II. The Arroyo Grande Ranch, containing 4,437.33 acres.
III. The Bolsas Chemical Ranch, containing 14,335.22 acres.
IV. The Pismo Ranch, containing 8,833.69 acres.
V. The Stone Corrall Ranch, containing 30,911.20 acres.

The titles of these large tracts have been thoroughly examined and approved by Judge Parsons, of San Francisco.

All reports, written and verbal, of gentlemen who, during the past year, have visited and thoroughly examined this property carefully and scientifically, concur in representing it as overflowing with petroleum. They say: "The Ranches are splendid estates, but their value is in their almost fabulous wealth in the best of oil."

The Company's lands extend for over ten miles on San Luis Bay, on the Pacific coast, with a good roadstead, where shipments can be made with facility to San Francisco, South America, Australia, China and New-York.

The lands have a gentle slope to San Luis Bay, and there is full assurance of the practicability of conducting the oil, at a moderate expense, through pipes from the wells to reservoirs or tanks, to be constructed at this point, when it can be sent to the markets of the world, either in its crude state or refined, according to the demand.

The cost of shipping will not exceed 50 cents per barrel, and the company will be enabled to deliver petroleum at New-York at $5 per barrel, and at Australia and China at reduced rates.

It is designed to develop, fully and practically, the means and wealth of this property at the earliest practicable moment.

The varied details, giving all the information that can be required, with a general description of the character, advantages and prospects of the Company's property, are fully and plainly set forth in the prospectus.

THE PACIFIC COAST PETROLEUM COMPANY of New-York have been duly organized under the laws of this State, with sufficient capital to render available its capabilities and resources in what is believed to be an unlimited supply of Petroleum not surpassed in quality.

Subscriptions for the stock of the Company have been opened at the offices of

JAMES WADSWORTH & CO., No. 61 Cedar-st., New-York,
RICH, SHERMAN & CO., No. 30 Pine-st., New-York,
NORTHRUP, HALL & CO., No. 113 Broadway.
LEWIS BENTON, Secretary, No. 112 Broadway,

where the prospectus can be obtained.

Subscriptions payable as above when the sum of $250,000 is subscribed.

To Business Men and Others.

THE STEAM STONE-CUTTER COMPANY will lease their Machines at fifty cents per day for

TRADE MARK

OF THE MAGIC RUFFLE COMPANY, to be found on each box and each piece of GENUINE MAGIC RUFFLE. All other goods, of whatever name, not having this mark, are worthless imitations and infringements on the patents of the Magic Ruffle Company. The GENUINE MAGIC RUFFLES are full six yards in each piece, are well made of the best material, and give perfect satisfaction to consumers. Office of the Company, No. 95 Chambers-st., N. Y.

The Remedy of the Age.

THE CELEBRATED "TROPICAL BALSAM,"

Prepared by CARRENO BROS. & Co., known as INFALLIBLE for the speedy cure of diseases of the CHEST and THROAT, and externally for PILES, WOUNDS, and other diseases.

[Copy.] Office of the Laboratory of Dr. J. G. Pohlé—late of Jas. R. Chilton & Co.—No. 23 Prince-st., corner of Mercer. James R. Chilton, M. D., Julius G. Pohlé, M. D., Analytical and Consulting Chemists. New-York, June 14, 1864.—I have made a chemical analysis of the "Tropical Balsam" prepared by Messrs. Careño Bros. & Co., and found, after a thorough examination of it, that it is composed exclusively of vegetable substances—principally of gums and resins—possessing decided medicinal properties. It contains nothing that can prove deleterious to health when taken internally or applied externally; its astringent and healing properties being well calculated to stop hemorrhages and heal wounds, ulcers, etc.

(Signed) JULIUS G. POHLE, M. D., successor to Dr. Jas. R. Chilton & Co., Analytical Chemist.

Full directions for use around each bottle.

General Depot at WM. E. SIBELL'S, No. 5 Wall-st., New-York.

Bottles at 37 cts. and $1; will be sent by Express upon receipt of price.

Musical Instruments.

A NEW PIANO.

TO THE PUBLIC AND THE PROFESSION.

LINDEMAN & SONS' PATENT CYCLOID PIANO-FORTES.

LINDEMAN & SONS, having perfected their new Patent Cycloid Piano-Forte, respectfully invite the profession, amateurs and the public generally, to visit their Manufactory, Nos. 171 and 173 Mercer-st., one door below Bleecker-st., to examine and thoroughly test these instruments. They court the most critical judgment and the closest comparison, convinced that the brilliant and sterling qualities of the

PATENT CYCLOID PIANOS

will meet with the approval of the most exacting.

Lindeman & Sons claim for these instruments a SUPERIORITY OF ACTUAL MELODIOUS POWER, A PURITY AND VOCALITY OF TONE, a perfection of touch, and, above all, the attainment of just mechanical construction, which combines in its shape ENTIRE NOVELTY, ELEGANCE and STRENGTH, and which insures that the instrument

WILL STAND IN TUNE,

longer and more perfectly, than

ANY OTHER PIANO

now manufactured, under all circumstances of change of climate, or variation of temperature.

The Patent Cycloid Pianos can be seen at all hours during the day. The invitation to visit and examine is extended to all. LINDEMAN & SONS, Nos. 171 and 173 Mercer-st.

STEINWAY & SONS—Manufacturers of Grand, Square, and Upright PIANOS have removed their Warerooms to their new Marble building, Nos. 71 and 73 East 14th-st., between Union Square and Irving Place, New-York.

Instruction.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

The classes for the term of 1865 will be organized on WEDNESDAY, March 1. This Institution is supported by the State, and has a full corps of Professors, a Farm, Gardens, Fine Stock, an excellent Chemical Laboratory, &c. Students are received to a full course of four years, or to a select course of any length. The course of study is intended to furnish a thorough English and Scientific Education.

Students are required to work three hours a day on the farm, and a moderate compensation is allowed for each hour's work.

Tuition is free to Students from the State—to others $20 per annum. Board is furnished at cost: during the last half of 1864 it was at the rate of $2 50 per week, nearly one-half of which was, in most instances, paid by the labor of the Student. For further information, or catalogue, address T. C. ABBOTT, President, Lansing, Michigan.

HUDSON RIVER INSTITUTE affords the very best advantages for a Classical, Scientific, Commercial and Musical Education. French Conversation and Lewis's Gymnastics for Ladies, and Military Drill for Gents, daily, without extra charge. A new Gymnasium, costing $6,000. Fifteen instructors. REV. ALONZO FLACK, A.M., Claverack, Columbia County, N. Y.

ELLINGTON BOARDING SCHOOL.—The Spring Term will commence March 23. At this School young men are fitted for College or Commercial Life. Young ladies can acquire a Finished Education, and the Common English Branches so frequently neglected receive especial attention. Send for a Circular. Address H. T. BOLLES, Principal, Ellington, Conn.

MAPLEWOOD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE, Pittsfield, Mass., commences its next session March 23, 1865. For full information or circulars, address Rev. C. V. SPEAR, the Principal.

Dry Goods.

LATHROP, LUDINGTON & CO., DEALERS IN FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS, CLOTHS, WHITE GOODS, HOSIERY, DRESS GOODS, AND YANKEE NOTIONS,

Latest European Markets.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET, 10 A.—Sales of Cotton for four days, 14,000 bales, including 1,000 to speculators and exporters, and 2,000 to the trade. The market opened with a decline of 1-16d, and closed with a further decline of 1-16d, the quotations generally being nearly all the decline. We quote:

Fair Orleans.....[illegible]
Middling Orleans.....[illegible]
Fair Mobile.....[illegible]
Middling Mobile.....[illegible]
Fair Uplands.....[illegible]
Middling Uplands.....[illegible]

The sales to-day include 1,000 bales of Fair Uplands, for delivery in March, at 19 1-16d, and 1,000 bales of Middling Orleans, for delivery in March, at 19 1-16d.

The sales from Manchester report a fair demand for Shirtings.

LIVERPOOL, FEB. 25, 10 A.—The Breadstuff market opened with a decline of 1d, and closed with a further decline of 1d. Wheat quiet and nominally lower. Corn quiet and steady.

Provisions.—Pork, Prime Mess, 75s. Lard, Prime, 60s. Wheat, Red, 9s. 6d. Corn, Mixed, 35s. Flour, Western, 35s. Tallow, Prime, 50s. Sugar, Muscovado, 30s. Rice, Carolina, 30s. Cotton, Fair Orleans, 19 1-16d.

Petroleum, Pennsylvania—Refined, 2s. Spirits, 1s. Other Petroleum—Refined, Russian, 2s. Spirits, 1s. Rosin, Common, 4s. Turpentine, Spirits, 40s. Linseed Oil, 35s. Sperm Oil, 90s. Whale Oil, 40s. Cod Oil, 40s. Rapeseed, English, 40s. Tallow, Prime, 50s. Sugar, Muscovado, 30s. Rice, Carolina, 30s. Cotton, Fair Orleans, 19 1-16d.

LIVERPOOL, FEB. 25, 10 A.—Cotton—Sales of 14,000 bales, including 1,000 to speculators and exporters, and 2,000 to the trade, market closed irregular and 1-16d lower. The market closed irregular and 1-16d lower. The quotations generally are 1-16d lower than last week. Middling Orleans, 19 1-16d. Sales to-day, 4,000, including 1,000 for speculation and export, and 2,000 for the trade. Middling Uplands, 19 1-16d. Sales, 10,000 bales of American.

Breadstuffs.—Wheat, Red, 9s. 6d. Corn, Mixed, 35s.

Provisions.—The market is quiet and steady. Lard is 60s. Pork, Prime Mess, 75s. Bacon, 57s. Tallow, 50s. Sugar, Muscovado, 30s. Rice, Carolina, 30s. Petroleum—Refined, 2s. Spirits, 1s. Rosin, 4s. Turpentine, Spirits, 40s. Linseed Oil, 35s. Sperm Oil, 90s. Whale Oil, 40s. Cod Oil, 40s. Rapeseed, English, 40s. Tallow, Prime, 50s.

LONDON, FEB. 25.—Consols, 89 3-4 for money and 89 3-4 for the account.

U. S. Bonds, 1862, 70 1-4. U. S. Bonds, 1865, 70 1-4. U. S. Bonds, 1867, 70 1-4. U. S. Bonds, 1868, 70 1-4. U. S. 10-40s, 69 1-4. Erie, 39 1-4. Illinois Central, 80. Atlantic and Great Western, 27 1-4.

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Breadstuffs.—Wheat, Red, 9s. 6d. Corn, Mixed, 35s.

Provisions.—The market is quiet and steady. Lard is 60s. Pork, Prime Mess, 75s. Bacon, 57s. Tallow, 50s. Sugar, Muscovado, 30s. Rice, Carolina, 30s. Petroleum—Refined, 2s. Spirits, 1s. Rosin, 4s. Turpentine, Spirits, 40s. Linseed Oil, 35s. Sperm Oil, 90s. Whale Oil, 40s. Cod Oil, 40s. Rapeseed, English, 40s. Tallow, Prime, 50s.

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U. S. Bonds, 1862, 70 1-4. U. S. Bonds, 1865, 70 1-4. U. S. Bonds, 1867, 70 1-4. U. S. Bonds, 1868, 70 1-4. U. S. 10-40s, 69 1-4. Erie, 39 1-4. Illinois Central, 80. Atlantic and Great Western, 27 1-4.

New Publications.

Latest European Markets.

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Breadstuffs.—Wheat, Red, 9s. 6d. Corn, Mixed, 35s.

Provisions.—The market is quiet and steady. Lard is 60s. Pork, Prime Mess, 75s. Bacon, 57s. Tallow, 50s. Sugar, Muscovado, 30s. Rice, Carolina, 30s. Petroleum—Refined, 2s. Spirits, 1s. Rosin, 4s. Turpentine, Spirits, 40s. Linseed Oil, 35s. Sperm Oil, 90s. Whale Oil, 40s. Cod Oil, 40s. Rapeseed, English, 40s. Tallow, Prime, 50s.

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New Publications.

THE TRIBUNE for 1865.

PROSPECTUS.

The Military and Naval measures of 1864, with the auspicious results achieved during the year, have filled to brim weight from the hearts of the Loyal Millions of our country. It is now the Nation's Hope that the Rebellion may not lift hitherto, that the Union is among strongholds, that the Slave Power is crushed, and Freedom established throughout the country. Such is the Nation's Hope, but not the Nation's Fear. The pulse of foreign intervention and Western Copperhead treason, which beat so fearfully Longer, no longer sounds as the choice of authority, while the hour of its force approaches, the Rebellion, Copperhead weakened by defeats and losses during the past year, slowly—yet beyond the reach of any human power—but steadily declines that its Treasury Notes can only be exchanged for coin, at the rate of twenty for one, while Gold is demanded but six ounces as the dollar—but yet, the hour will, and must, come when the Rebellion will be crushed, and the Union established in fact, as it now is in name. The Nation's Fear is of a weary struggle and purely financial but debtoring and unsatisfactory. Yet, from the magnificent Hope, we see faith that the year now is open will see the Rebellion Stripped from authority, the Union established in the hearts, and the partial law of Liberty for All immediately included in the Constitution of our Union.

THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, founded in 1841, will enter upon its twenty-fourth year with the Rebellion and its largest means of malicious. Its principles need no elaborate: Liberty and Union, Equal Rights and Equal Justice, notice of a spirit of Freedom and Humanity. When this Rebellion shall have been crushed, and Freedom established in the basis of our institutions and policy, also Justice to the Rebellion, and Equal Rights and Equal Justice to the Nation, we shall be ready to see the Rebellion—the Rebellion—and then will our hand lock once more in the embrace of our Country's Foes.

THE TRIBUNE has for the last year been published with but small profit to its proprietors, and yet, with every assurance labor and outlay devoted to its publication, which, because of the importance of our Country's interests, should, compelling us to lay paper and other materials to an advance of twenty-five per cent, which we have resolved from our subscribers. On our Weekly edition, the last has been made, and we have resolved that the Weekly Tribune will be sent to the Subscribers for the Weekly Tribune, at the same price, and the Semi-Weekly Tribune, at the same price, and the Tri-Weekly Tribune, at the same price, and the Daily